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LITERATURE.

The Invasion of the Crimea. By A. W. Kinglake. Vols. VII. and VIII. (Blackwood.)

(First Notice.)

THE last volumes of Mr. Kinglake's history are marked by the excellencies and the defects conspicuous in those which have appeared before them. We admire the industrious toil of the author. He has studied his subject with extreme care in a work that has been the labour of a life. And though his information on the Crimean War, from the French side, is, we believe, inadequate, he has, perhaps, exhausted the stores of knowledge that can be drawn from English and Russian sources. His narrative, too, many as are its faults, has the special merit that, though it enters elaborately into military details, it is easily understood by the general reader; and this, in the case of a work that sets forth the technical incidents of a great siege, is certainly a merit of a high order. Mr. Kinglake, moreover, has a good deal of the creative and the artistic faculty, if he is not a candid or a right-minded critic. His portrait of Pelissier in these volumes stands out in clear and striking relief; and we are happy to perceive that, in this part of his book, he does tardy justice to the French army—most unfairly treated by him previously. Having given it, however, the praise it deserves, this conclusion of the great work of the author, we regret to say, is disfigured and marred by faults and blemishes of the gravest kind. It is wanting in impartiality and sound discernment; it often conveys a false impression of the events which it professes to describe; and even as a composition it is not successful. Mr. Kinglake repeatedly views facts through a medium of such distorting prejudice that he wholly fails to perceive the truth. He seems almost to lose his head when he has to deal with the late Louis Napoleon; and his account of the conduct and acts of the emperor, during the period comprised in these volumes, is ungenerous, unfair, and very misleading. From the same want of insight he occasionally hazards opinions that may be dismissed as absurd. For instance, his theory of the shortcomings of Pelissier, at a crisis of the siege, is simply unworthy of a serious writer; and his sneers and carplings at the late Marshal Niel reveal—not ignorance of the science of war—but incapacity to form a sound judgment. The narrative, too,—though in parts good—in these, as in the preceding volumes, very often dwells at excessive length on petty incidents and trivial details, and does not place events in their true proportions. Its march, besides, is ill-ordered, slow, and very deficient in skill and unity;

and the style of the author, though always lucid, and sometimes even attaining eloquence, is often marked by extremely false taste, and injured by a bad pedantic mannerism. The siege of Sebastopol forms a subject for an historian as grand as that of Syracuse; but English literature may hide its diminished head, if the masterpiece of the art of Thucydides be set beside these very imperfect volumes.

Mr. Kinglake has fairly described the state of the contending armies after the great day of Inkerman. That victory—no adequate account of it has yet appeared on the page of history—saved the allies from a tremendous peril; but a few weeks sufficed to bring out the difficulties of their situation with fearful distinctness. Having recoiled from Sebastopol after the Alma, and failed to take the fortress after a brief bombardment, they found themselves committed to a protracted siege, on a desolate coast, in the depths of winter, with numbers quite inadequate to their task, and without many appliances needed for it; and they were confronted by an enemy superior in strength, holding what had become a vast entrenched camp, well fortified and open on one whole front, and not only possessing an army in the field, but able to turn to the best account the resources of a great fleet and an arsenal, and to draw reinforcements from all parts of an empire. The positions of the belligerents were, in fact, reversed. The besiegers had suddenly become the besieged; and it has often been argued that if a great effort had been made again by the generals of the Czar the invaders might even yet have been driven into the sea. This catastrophe was, perhaps, averted by the extraordinary moral effect of Inkerman—a point Mr. Kinglake has not brought out; and if the allies were forced to give the Russians time, the Russians, too, made a like concession, with consequences possibly disastrous to themselves. Mr. Kinglake scarcely alludes in these columns to the horrors of the Crimean winter, and to the terrible sufferings of the British army. He had, doubtless, noticed the subject before; but he has nowhere dwelt enough on a topic which it was incumbent on one who has written to prove that Lord Raglan was all but a faultless commander to pass over as lightly as possible. From December 1854 to March 1855 very little progress was made in the siege. The allies, in truth, were largely employed in constructing lines to defend themselves; and though no master mind was to be found in their camp, this comparative inaction was in the main due to circumstances from which there was no escape. The approaches to the fortress, however, advanced; the French attained good results in mining; the enemy's sorties were bravely repelled; and a new plan of attack was formed, the Malakoff and not the Flag Staff Bastion being now treated as the main objective—a questionable change, whatever may be said, if we are to believe the best Russian authorities. In these circumstances complete scope was given to the art of the great engineer who was the life and soul of the defence of Sebastopol; and, disposing of his immense resources against an enemy scarcely able to strike, Todleben covered the menaced front of the fortress with a vast system of counter-approaches,

which enormously increased its powers of resistance. Mr. Kinglake has elaborately described—but with a mannerism that offends a reader accustomed to a good narrative of war—the positions and characteristics of this series of works; and we should be the last to detract from their author's merits. Yet Todleben's constructions were not, as Mr. Kinglake hints, the mighty creations of genius inspired by original thought. They simply illustrated on a large scale what Carnot had taught and achieved before; and Mr. Kinglake, full as he is of details, fails to explain what is the chief value of these counter-works in the defence of a strong place—how, when properly designed, they perplex, baffled, and interfere with the besieger's projects.

The position of the allies, and the undoubted fact that Canrobert was a feeble chief, completely account for the condition of affairs before Sebastopol in the spring of 1855. Mr. Kinglake, however, has a theory of his own to explain the delays that occurred in the siege; and this, containing as it does half truths, but in its main conceptions essentially false, is, in our judgment, a caricature of history. Louis Napoleon, Mr. Kinglake asserts—pursuing the emperor with the malicious spite conspicuous throughout the whole of this book—eager to emulate his uncle's exploits, wished to take the field in the Crimea in person, and to finish the war by a great stroke of generalship; and, as this was not possible before the approach of summer, he deliberately retarded the progress of the siege, and kept his army inactive around the fortress; and, concealing his purpose from his allies, disloyally imperilled the common cause in order to satisfy mere selfish vanity. In these grave charges there are grains of fact, but, taken as a whole, they are simply shameful. The emperor undoubtedly did desire to lead a French army against Sebastopol; and Mr. Kinglake is probably right in saying that the plan of a descent from Aloushta, though in conformity with the rules of war, was made on very imperfect data, and might have ended in a disastrous failure. Napoleon III., too, acting on the advice of Niel, and in accord with plain military rules, unquestionably recommended that an attempt should be made to invest Sebastopol and to hem in the garrison before the siege should be actively pressed, and the great hazard of an assault risked; and in this, as Mr. Kinglake lets out, the best English authorities agreed with him. We will admit, besides, that the imperial strategist was somewhat reticent as regards Lord Raglan; and it would have been better, on the whole, had he not attempted—though his general views were in the main correct—to direct the movements of a great war from the Tuileries. But that Napoleon III., from a sinister motive, kept his "army tethered" around Sebastopol, prevented the siege from becoming "active," and played false to the allied cause, is, we believe, a most reckless calumny; and Mr. Kinglake is gravely to blame for not publishing the evidence of a damning charge which he asserts can be made forthcoming, and for resting his case on hints and inferences. The accusation, in its main features, appears to us to be plainly confuted. The advice of Napoleon III. to Canrobert "to be prudent

and not to compromise anything," condemned as "miserable" by Mr. Kinglake, was dictated by the necessities of the case, and certainly reveals no crooked purpose. As for the emperor's desire to suspend operations of an active kind until the investment of Sebastopol should be made complete, this, we have said, was perfectly right in principle, and was sanctioned by what we may fairly call a great council of war assembled at Windsor; and it deserves special notice that at no time, with the possible exception of two or three days, did Lord Raglan dissent from the imperial view that an assault on the fortress should not be ventured while the allies were in their present state of weakness. Granting, too, even that the emperor was wrong, it does not follow that he acted in bad faith; and it must be remembered that, on a hint from England that his presence in the Crimea would not be opportune, he abandoned a design which must have seemed a duty to the heir of the traditions of Napoleon I.

The circumstance, however, that tells most against Mr. Kinglake's theory has to be yet noticed. Canrobert, weak and easily led at Sebastopol, as at Metz afterwards, was exactly a tool for the emperor's purpose on the supposition that he was playing false; and Pelissier was the only French general who, even in the spring of 1855, was the least eager to press on the siege. Yet Canrobert was practically dismissed from his command after the recall of the expedition to Kertch, and Pelissier was placed at the head of his army; and though Napoleon III., when this event occurred, was probably not completely aware of the projects formed for the siege by Pelissier, he must have known the bent of his lieutenant's mind. This consideration seems to us decisive; and we refuse to accept Mr. Kinglake's judgment until distinct evidence is adduced to sustain it. We pass on to the next phase of the siege—the second great bombardment of April 1855. Mr. Kinglake's account of this prolonged effort is minute, and even in parts graphic; but, as is the case generally with his descriptions of war, it wants unity and dramatic effect, and is expressed in pompous and too studied language; and it has the special defect, with him common, of making too much of unimportant incidents. The general results of the bombardment were that the counterworks along the front assailed were greatly injured, and in part destroyed; but scarcely any impression was made on what had become the chief points of attack—the Malakoff and the adjoining defences. The Flag Staff Bastion, however, was, no doubt, silenced—a proof of the insight of Bizot and Niel; and Mr. Kinglake, for this conclusion quoting the authority of Todleben himself, insists that had a determined assault been made, as Lord Raglan for a moment wished, the fall of Sebastopol would have ensued; and for this omission he throws blame on Canrobert and the false-hearted emperor. Todleben's view may have been correct; but it was founded on knowledge confined to himself, and wholly beyond the reach of the allies, of the extreme weakness of this point in the defence; and it does not follow that it would have been judicious, with the information the allies possessed, to have risked an attack of this kind on the fortress. It must be borne in mind that, at

this time, the Malakoff had become the chief objective, and that, except at one spot, the main defences of Sebastopol were completely intact; and, in these circumstances, it would have been most hazardous to imperil two armies in a desperate attempt to penetrate into a first-rate stronghold through an entrance made in a single work. No general, in truth, could stand the test of the captious criticism of Mr. Kinglake, resting as it does on the absurd assumption that a commander has all the facts before him. Had Massena known what was going on in Wellington's camp, he might, perhaps, have carried the lines of Torres Vedras. Napoleon, after the capture of La Haye Sainte, might possibly have forced the British position by summoning his reserves to make a great effort, had he been aware how severely the duke was pressed.

WILLIAM O'CONNOR MORRIS.

Personal Remembrances of Sir Frederick Pollock, sometime Queen's Remembrancer. In 2 vols. (Macmillan.)

THIS is a season of biographies and autobiographies. Sir Frederick Pollock's book is mainly the gossip of a lawyer, and, therefore, does not compete with the scientific memories of Mr. Darwin, the artistic stories of Mr. Frith, or the literary anecdotes of Mr. Adolphus Trollope. Sir Frederick's legal remembrances began very early, as his father, the Lord Chief Baron, while he was still a rising lawyer, took him on circuit when only ten years old. Indeed, they even begin before that, as one of his earliest recollections was a story against Queen Caroline, to whom, as a strong Tory, Pollock *père* was zealously opposed.

"We were all taught she was a very bad woman, and curiosity led us to ask what she had done bad. In reply, we were told that she took things from other people's plates at dinner, and put things on their plates from her own. This was, in fact, one of the instances given in evidence of her unseemly familiarity with Bergami, her courier. It had, therefore, as an answer, the merit of being historically authentic, and also pointing a moral of good conduct for the nursery dinner-table."

When ten years old, Pollock was present at the great case of *Angell v. Angell*, which forms the groundwork of the real action in Warren's *Ten Thousand a Year*, and occasioned some people to attribute to Pollock the authorship of that once famous, but now almost unreadable, book. On his youthful circuits he became known to Macaulay, of whose startling memory he gives a striking instance; to Brougham, and the other members of the Northern circuit who have become famous in law, letters, or life, and the hosts who entertained them; to Lord Lowther, Dr. Lingard the historian, Archbishop Vernon Harcourt, and other magnates of old. At Cambridge, as the son of the attorney-general, he had an equally good start, with the result that we have a report of a conversation between Sidney Smith and Whewell, in the course of which Sidney Smith remarked on Sir John Herschel's voyage to the Cape: "I suppose that you astronomers, when you are ill, are advised to change your stars just as we ordinary mortals are to change our air;" and Whewell concluded a discussion on the notion that a blunt razor, if kept unused, will get

an edge again, by saying he "wondered how long an iron garden-roller would have to be put by before you could cut with it." It speaks well, by the way, for the greater Liberalism of Cambridge, as compared with Oxford, that at that time the great question at the Cambridge Union was Sunday opening, whereas at Oxford this did not become a burning question till nearly forty years afterwards. The undergraduate majority, however, was in politics as Tory as at Oxford; and 809 of them signed a petition against the admission of dissenters to the university—one of those Liberal measures which, like the Reform Bill and the five points of the Charter, were each in turn (as appears from Sir F. Pollock's pages) thought by despondent Tories to portend a cataclysm involving the dissolution of the empire—those fatal and inevitable consequences of reform which now, as ever, are predicted with equal certainty and reasonableness. Oddly enough, the party of loyalty and order took much the same way then as now of displaying their loyalty and love of order when the Crown was against them. Sir F. Pollock relates an incident in 1836 (his dates are a little mixed) which strangely reminds us of a celebrated utterance as to kicking the Queen's crown into the Boyne. At a Conservative banquet held at the Lyceum, because Lord Melbourne was then Prime Minister, and Queen Victoria was supposed to favour Liberal views, her health was received "with scant honour, while all the loyal enthusiasm of such an occasion was reserved for the toast of Adelaide, Queen Dowager." A youthful sign of the same feeling towards the powers that be was afforded by Sir F. Pollock himself. When reading the lessons in chapel, he found a note from the dean, Thorpe, telling him to read a chapter of Isaiah instead of the regular lesson of the day, which was the apocryphal story of Bel and the Dragon, and he contumaciously stuck to Bel and the Dragon. This Thorpe gave occasion to a very neat epitaph. One of the undergraduates kept a cat, whom, "in order to show his respect to the authorities," he called Thorpe; and when "Thorpe the cat" died his epitaph took the shape of

"Here lies the corpse,
Was Thomas Thorpe's,"

finally condensed into the admirable inscription:

"Thorpe's
Corpse."

Grand Court on the Northern circuit is productive of some good stories. When Sir F. Pollock joined the circuit two of the leaders were those great twin brethren, the classic reporters, Adolphus and Ellis, whose reports, alas! are now at a discount. "Adolphus, in Grand Court, invented the names of Fidelia Fanny and Caleb Samuel for the twins of an eminent pleader, in order that they might be affectionately called by the abbreviations of Fi. Fa. and Ca. Sa.; and he wrote for their especial use the nursery rhyme," which suggests the junior Pollockian *Leading Cases done into English*:

"Heigh ho, Richard Roe,
Why did you break the closes so,
Which the Bishop demised to poor John Doe?
Good Mr. Doe had done you no harm
When you ejected him from his farm.
Fie on you, naughty Richard Roe,
How could you break the closes so?"

Among the judges who went the Northern circuit was Mr. Justice Williams, who, like Lord Thurlow, in a previous generation, was celebrated for the strength of his expletives. His wife being a woman of fashion, they lived in Grosvenor Square, of which he used to say, "I live in Grosvenor Square, but I'm damned if I know where the other judges live." The word "damned" had become with him so little of an *epitheton ornans* and so much of an *epitheton constans* that in reading another judge's notes on an application for a new trial, he read "d—d" into his favourite expression, thus, "When the plaintiff was asked to pay for the goods he said he would see them damned first." Counsel interrupted "We have it that he would see them delivered first." Whereon Williams thus delivered himself: "What I have is d—d, and if that does not mean damned I am damned myself." The only other judicial story of any noteworthiness is one by that putative father of half the legal jokes in the country—Mr. Justice Maule. He was sitting as judge in a Mint case in which Sir F. Pollock was prosecuting. After the chief witness, a barmaid, had given her evidence the prisoner said to her, "Go away! I know the jury won't believe you." Whereon the girl said she was not going away for his telling her, and a battle royal of words ensued. Maule, looking up from his notes, said, "My good girl, you have given your evidence very well, and you can go; and remember you have this advantage over the prisoner—that you can go and he can't." Roebuck, of Sheffield fame, was then on the circuit, and a Radical; and on one occasion he entered a solemn protest against the unworthy institution of Grand Court, but next time took his part in it like a lamb, though he sat next to Sir Frederick and descended to him on the virtue of political assassination and the necessity of a side door to the stomach for the introduction of meals, so as to avoid long dinners. But, our author says, he became *mitior et melior* as he grew older; and the last time they met was at a Skinners dinner in the City—an occasion calculated indeed to abate any wish for a side door for the admission of nutriment to the human body.

A rather funny example of similar modification of general views in the case of the individual holder was a certain Lady Olivia Sparrow, who gave the Chief Baron and Sir Robert Peel a grand entertainment when they were members for Huntingdon. Lady Olivia was noted in the religious world, but lived in great luxury; and on Col. Peel remarking that creature comforts were not absent, she replied, "Yes, there is the more to thank God for." The most singular conflict, however, between general and personal views recorded in the book is a story of Carlyle, too long to quote at length, but exceedingly characteristic. It was, shortly, this—that Carlyle, the stern preacher of duty, having sat on a jury, and having in consequence stormed and raved as if the most frightful torture had been unjustly inflicted on him, when a summons for another sitting in the same case arrived, Mrs. Carlyle burnt it; but, having fortunately told Sir Frederick, he saved Carlyle from the fine, which would probably have awaited him, by making Carlyle go, though he had given his word of

honour to the official of the court that he would not come back. The *Life of Cromwell* was nearly being sacrificed to Carlyle's ravings on the subject; and even four months after the trial was over, poor Mrs. Carlyle says, in a letter to Stirling, that she was only just recovering from the deplorable plight into which they had been thrown by this awful incident. One story more, and we have done. Mrs. Grote, having offended Louis Napoleon when in London, met him at Paris in 1849, just after he had become president of the Republic. He received her very coldly, and only asked her, "Do you stay long in Paris?" when she had her revenge by answering "No, do you?"

Here we must end; but, in conclusion, we warn the reader, first, that he has been shown most of the purple patches in the book; and, secondly, that he should on no account read Sir Frederick Pollock's letters, which are characterised by effort rather than by effect. Happily, judicious skipping is easy. It is certainly necessary, since, after Sir Frederick left the Bar, the autobiography has a tendency to become a mere list of names of distinguished persons he has met at dinner, with anecdotes concerning them at very long intervals indeed.

ARTHUR F. LEACH.

Austral Africa: Losing it or Ruling it, being Incidents and Experiences in Bechuanaland, Cape Colony, and England. By John Mackenzie. In 2 vols. (Sampson Low.)

A more competent authority on South African affairs than Mr. Mackenzie does not exist. We trust that the size of his two bulky volumes will deter no one from studying them. His style, if not strictly correct, is far from being unattractive. Diffuse he certainly is; but he succeeds in holding the reader's interest and attention, and his transparent candour and impartiality carry conviction with them. His high character and knowledge of native affairs entitled him to a hearing from those in authority; and when the Liberal party succeeded to office in 1880, being apparently of the same political complexion, he communicated his views respecting Bechuanaland to Mr. Grant Duff, but he met with kind words and nothing more—to use his own expression, he was *pigeon-holed*.

In 1882 he came to England resolved to push his views, in spite of the advice of a friend he met on his way just returned from home, who said to him:

"Mackenzie, if you say a good word for South Africa you'll get insulted. They won't hear a word on its behalf in England—they are so disgusted with the mess that has been made. They won't listen, they will swear at you—even missionary-people are as prejudiced as the rest."

This was discouraging; but Mr. Mackenzie admits that it was not far from the truth as to public feeling in 1882. He had interviews with various influential men—a member of Parliament, a pushing man of business, and an ardent politician; with the editor of a well-known newspaper, a pungent writer; with a large manufacturer, a local magnate; with an author and politician—all equally narrow and prejudiced, and indifferent to the true state of the case. Mr. Mackenzie

describes these interviews amusingly; but he was mortified and disappointed. Lastly, when he urged on "X," a leading politician on South African affairs, that there would be a change in public opinion could the public know the truth, the great man exclaimed:

"The public know the truth! When will that happen? No; we go by hot and cold stages here. We were very hot a while ago; we are chilly just now; whether we shall ever be hot again, I don't know—I think not."

Mr. Mackenzie nevertheless got the assistance of Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Forster, and others; a South African Committee was formed in London, and an address to the Secretary of State for the Colonies was so influentially supported that it was not convenient to disregard it. The result was that in 1884 Mr. Mackenzie was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Bechuanaland. There was no mistake as to his views with regard to natives, white settlers, and freebooters, and as to the necessity of upholding Imperial authority. He tells us that a thorough distrust of England's sincerity and steadfastness prevailed through South Africa, produced by our own treatment of South African questions.

"I do not refer," he says, "specially to the retrocession of the Transvaal, but to what may be called the practical abandonment of South Africa by England after that event. To have given back to the Transvaal the right of local self-government was a small matter as compared with what was actually done. We are chargeable with the gravest dereliction of duty—that of having left South Africa, divided and incompetent as it was, to look after its own general affairs, without establishing, or assisting to establish, any form of general government by means of which this necessary work could be done. It is still more to our discredit that this virtual retreat from South Africa was accompanied by open protestation in England that we were not retreating at all, and that we still intended to uphold our position in the country as the supreme power and the protector of the weaker races. But there was nothing to show for this in South Africa itself. Politicians went from town to town in England advocating desertion of South Africa, retaining only the Cape as a coaling station, thus constituting another Gibraltar in the Southern seas. Who can wonder at the direst result in South Africa—the formation of the *Africander Bond*? The anti-English people naturally thought of a republic, and prepared for it; the English and loyal Colonial population ground their teeth and remained silent and downcast, as colonists who were deserted by the mother country. A few Cape politicians of English race were perhaps the most rabid against the old country. They, rightly or wrongly, nursed a sense of personal desertion, and shrieked rather than said that they would never trust England again. Young English colonists left the country, in cases where that could be done. Older men set to work to learn the Dutch language, and be prepared for future possibilities. And yet the great body of the Cape Colonists, of whatever extraction, were far from being disloyal to England, and far from endorsing with their approval the deeds of the freebooters. They were the victims of misunderstanding and mismanagement. Why could not the English Government know its own mind, and abide by it?"

We fear the appointment of Mr. Mackenzie can be attributed only to a desire for temporary popularity. Probably, as in the case of Gordon, it was thought a popular move; and, like Gordon, as soon as he was out of

sight, Mr. Mackenzie was forgotten. Had he possessed a little more worldly wisdom he would have made his own terms with the Government before accepting so onerous a charge, but he was too honourable himself to anticipate the way in which he was to be treated. It would seem that it was indifferent to the Government at home whether he succeeded or not, and the Government at the Cape were rather desirous of his failure. That he failed to settle matters in Bechuanaland and reduce all the freebooters of Stellaland and Goshen to order without the assistance of a single soldier, or even one policeman, cannot be wondered at. The wonder is that he accomplished as much as he did. Here again his high character stood him in good stead. He found a universal distrust of the British Government prevailing.

"Mr. Mackenzie," said a colonist to him, "I'm sorry to have to say it to you, because we have all known you so long; but, honestly speaking, I hope you won't succeed. The English Government doesn't deserve to succeed, after what they have made us all, Englishmen and loyal colonists, suffer in the Transvaal. We all trusted, and we were deceived. For a long time scarcely a day passed when we were not insulted by the more ignorant Boers, till we were almost tired of our lives; and yet we could not go away, having invested our all in the country."

This was a specimen of the general feeling. Nevertheless Mr. Mackenzie succeeded in establishing the British Protectorate in Bechuanaland and in bringing back Stellaland to its allegiance.

It is impossible not to admire the patience and temper with which Mr. Mackenzie recounts the way in which he was treated by Sir Hercules Robinson and the Government at the Cape. Not only was he never supported, on the contrary he was continually thwarted and almost insulted. At last he had no resource but to resign. His successor, Mr. C. Rhodes, seems to have been sent to Bechuanaland with the express purpose of undoing all that he had done, and of playing into the hands of the freebooters and the disloyal; and in this he was ably assisted by Capt. Bower. Mr. Rhodes found the great body of the people of Stellaland well pleased with the Protectorate. He told them it was at an end, and Capt. Bower removed all traces of it.

"There can be no doubt," says Sir Charles Warren, "that Mr. Rhodes's action, supporting and upholding the Transvaal party, tended to a considerable degree to prevent peace being established in Stellaland. I consider that the difficulties which occurred in Stellaland since August last were entirely of his own causing; and that had he not come into the country, Stellaland might have been in a quiet state when I arrived."

While the High Commissioner at the Cape and his agent, Mr. Rhodes, were doing all in their power to crush the loyal party in Bechuanaland, Mr. Forster at home ably and nobly vindicated the administration of Mr. Mackenzie; and he so roused public feeling in England that the Government thought it politic to be *hot* once again, and Sir Charles Warren was sent out as Special Commissioner of Bechuanaland, with a force adequate to establish order in the Protectorate. The

success of that able administrator is fresh in the memory of all. He probably would be the first to admit that had Mr. Mackenzie been furnished with the same means, he would have been equally successful.

The lesson to be learnt from the events detailed by Mr. Mackenzie is that the policy pursued in the retrocession of the Transvaal, the abandonment of loyal subjects to the Boers, and the encouragement given to the freebooters of Stellaland and Goshen, is as impolitic as it is base. It is abundantly clear that a bold and honourable assertion of British sovereignty would have been the far easier course. Mr. Mackenzie tells us that the numbers and influence of the anti-British party in Austral Africa are greatly exaggerated. The bulk of the white population of whatever descent, and the whole of the native population, desire a firm imperial rule. This is amply proved by the partial success of Mr. Mackenzie, with no means whatever at his disposal, and by the triumphant march of Sir C. Warren. That Englishmen should have been found ready to pursue the baser policy is a bad sign of the times; but that any could have sided with the murderers of Bethell and Honey would, had it not happened, have seemed impossible. Two more atrocious murders were never perpetrated; and it should have been a preliminary to all negotiations that the murderers should have been punished.

Mr. Mackenzie is confident of the future. He does not look on England as a decaying state, but has the fullest confidence that she is a vitally sound and growing commonwealth, whose great public questions invariably secure for their settlement not only the services of capable statesmen, in whose judgment the public have confidence, but the attention and conscientious study of the people themselves. We wish we could feel the same confidence; but, while our system of colonial government remains as it is, so long is there a danger of recurring "hot and cold stages"; and it is only after some fatal mistake or disaster that the attention and conscientious study of the people themselves is directed to the affairs of a remote colony.

We have confined ourselves to the main features of Mr. Mackenzie's work, which besides contains abundance of collateral information, both valuable and interesting. Each volume is furnished with a good map—a great convenience to the reader; and the index appears to be carefully made.

WM. WICKHAM.

DR. PELAYO'S HISTORY OF AESTHETICS IN SPAIN.

Historia de las Ideas Estéticas en España.
Por Dr. D. M. Menéndez y Pelayo.
Tomo III. (Vols. I., II.) "Siglo XVIII."
(Madrid: Dubrull.)

THESE fresh volumes of Menéndez y Pelayo's extensive work on the history of the literature of aesthetic ideas in Spain possess all the characteristics of their predecessors. There is the same exhaustive fullness, the same careful attention to bibliographical details, which make the work absolutely indispensable to all who would really study the history of Spanish literature. There is the same fondness for formal analysis, even of foreign

authors, carried perhaps to excess—analysis not only of printed texts, but also of MSS., and sometimes even of MSS. left incomplete. Yet it is difficult to understand what influence these unknown and imperfect writings could have had on the literary development of the age, however much they may enable us better to understand the complete standpoint of their authors.

The literature of the eighteenth century in Spain is, perhaps, the least peculiarly Spanish of any century in its history. From first to last the age is dominated by foreign influences—by the French classical school in poetry and the drama, by the Scotch school in philosophy, by Italians in architecture, and by the Bohemian Mengs in painting. Its best writers on aesthetics of every class are chiefly to be found among the exiled Jesuit fathers who lived and wrote in Italy; and these our author claims as belonging to Spanish literature even when they wrote only in Latin or Italian. Towards the close of the century there is a faint dawn of better things. Some few precursors appear of the advent of the Romantic school, and of a return to the models of the older literature of Spain. It is pleasant to observe how our author, like Antæus, rises refreshed from contact with his native soil. His style becomes more lively and vigorous, he kindles into real enthusiasm, and his pages glow with eloquence, whenever he treats of Jove-llanos or of other worthies of his native Asturias.

But it is seldom that the work is thus enlivened by passages which appeal to the popular ear. It is, nevertheless, full of examples of sound criticism, of decisions which commend themselves to the judgment of the student, and which he will carefully store in his memory for future use and application. The wide learning of the author is everywhere apparent; and, while not concealing his own preferences, his power of appreciating the excellencies of most diverse schools of thought and art is very marked. Thus, in vol. i., pp. 107-8, we find an excellent appreciation of the Scotch school of philosophy from Hutcheson to Sir W. Hamilton and Prof. Mansell. On the standing quarrel between naturalists and idealists he quotes with approval the conclusions of Arteaga:

"There is no idealist who does not draw from nature the elements wherewith he forms his mental pictures, just as there is no naturalist who does not add much of the ideal to his portraits, however like and however close to nature he may deem his work to be. Every naturalist is an idealist in his execution, just as every idealist must necessarily be a naturalist in the first materials for his execution" (vol. i., 246).

In music he asserts, both in vol. i., pp. 252-3, and in vol. ii., 562, that Arteaga's conception of music and the opera as the union and crown of all other arts is identical with that which Wagner has more fully developed in our own day. Noticing, in the course of this history, how often a dull correct work, without a particle of real genius in it, like Addison's "Cato," for example, will carry off the suffrages of foreign nations, he remarks, *à propos* of Montiano's impossible tragedies, so much praised in France and also by Lessing, how difficult it is for a foreigner to judge of style, and lays it down as a rule

that "no one can feel the beauties of poetry except in his native language, with the exception of those great works of universal genius, which move us, even though we cannot appreciate their form" (vol. i., 394). This consideration may give us cause to question whether the judgment of foreigners is so near to that of posterity as we sometimes imagine it to be.

The eighteenth century was peculiarly an age of description and of didactics in poetry. The old enthusiasm and mystical fervour of religion had well-nigh died out, and had been replaced by cold rational systems of ethical conduct. Hence the wearying didactic poems on the *Ars Poetica*, on music, on architecture, on painting, on hunting, and on almost every subject to which a pedagogical form could be given in verse. As a corollary to this, it was eminently an age of translations. Every nation seemed to distrust its own native genius, and to be engaged either in an unreal imitation of ancient classical art, or in endeavouring to transfer to itself the beauties of other lands. The greatest foreign influence on Spain was the pseudo-classicism of the French school. This influence our author believes not to have been solely due to the accession of a French Bourbon dynasty. It would have come all the same even if Philip V. had never ascended the throne of Spain. Pseudo-classicism was a universal malady of the time in all forms of art—in architecture, where it produced the abominations of the plateresque and churrigueresque schools; in painting, where it commenced with the eclectic classicism of Mengs, to end in the still falser classicism of David; in drama, in the vain attempt to reduce all action within the unities. Next to France, Italy had the greatest influence on Spain; but the works of several English poets were translated at this time. In 1754 Milton's *Paradise Lost* was first translated, then followed versions of Pope, of Thomson's *Seasons*, and of Young's *Night Thoughts*; but especially of Ossian, whose reign seems everywhere to have been of longer duration and more powerful than at home. But while Spaniards were thus adopting the literature of other nations there was no corresponding hospitality abroad for their own. Spanish literature was wholly neglected, as our author complains (vol. ii., p. 184), "A Spanish book was as though it did not exist, or as if it were written in the dialect of the island of Otaheite."

Still the nation was slowly rousing itself. The latter part of vol. ii. gives us the history of the Academia de San Fernando y de las Bellas Artes, from its first meeting in September, 1744; and many of the subsequent pages are occupied with analyses and extracts from works read at its meetings. The term "Estética" seems to be of later introduction, being first used by the Abate Marchena in 1828. We must pass over the criticisms of the better-known writers of this period—Melendez, Iriarte, Quintana, the Moratins, Duque de Frias, Martinez de la Rosa, &c., all of whom find some mention. On architecture the remarks are brief but noteworthy. The immense value of the *Viaje de Pons*, 1771-1792, is insisted on. Tolerant of all styles except the churrigueresque "his work is more than a book: it is a

date in the history of our culture. It did as much for the arts as the voyages of Burriel, Flores, and Villanueva did for history, or that of J. Jorge y Ulloa for science." A citation from Capmany will find a response with many of our readers: "To me Gothic architecture seems always ancient, and Roman always modern." But the writer who did most to turn the national taste from a false classicism was the statesman Jove-llanos. It is remarked that in all departments of art the reform to a truer taste was brought about not by artists or architects or specialists, but by amateurs of no practical skill or special knowledge of the arts. It is Jove-llanos who first proclaimed Velasquez the king of all Spanish painters, and with this verdict our author thoroughly agrees.

The volumes issued up to the present terminate with a chapter of criticism and bibliography of such minor arts as the ballet, pantomime, theatrical declamation, landscape gardening, equitation, and bull-fighting, on all of which the best books of the period are indicated. It is to be hoped that a full index, at least of authors' names, many of whom are here mentioned for the first time, with their dates, will accompany this great work when concluded; otherwise its utility as a manual for consultation for the ordinary student will be greatly diminished.

WENTWORTH WEBSTER.

NEW NOVELS.

Nadia. From the Russian of R. Orloffsky.

In 3 vols. (Sonnenschein.)

One Maid's Mischief. By G. Manville Fenn.

In 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

A New Face at the Door. By Jane Stanley.

In 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

The Frozen Pirate. By Clark Russell. In

2 vols. (Sampson Low.)

Fools of Nature. By Alice Brown. (Triübner.)

Germinie Lacerteux. By E. and J. de Goncourt. (Vizetelly.)

Fanny. By Ernest Feydeau. (Vizetelly.)

The Mystery of the Hansom Cab. By Fergus W. Hume. (Hansom Cab Publishing Co.)

THE influence of the vague immensities of the steppes seems to affect all the great Russian novelists. Sensationalism, as commonly understood, does not exist in the writings of men like Tolstoi, Dostoiévsky, Tourguénief. Passions, terrors, agonies of mind and body, are, of course, brought into play, and incidents as thrilling as any detailed by our own romancers are described with picturesque and occasionally with dramatic effect. But the echoes of these passions and despairs have something of the remoteness of the thunder and storm which the traveller on the plains sees or hears amid the heights of the Kavkaz. These exciting events move so slowly, are introduced so circumspectly, that they affect one no more startlingly than, during a journey, would the gradual drifting of rain-clouds from the steppe-horizons. This dilatoriness with incident, this indifference to sudden and startling surprises, this calm spectral method of narration, is not without charm to readers satiated with the

morbid fever of popular French *romans* or the overwrought sensationalism now so prevalent in our midst. On the other hand, it must be admitted that much of the charm is due to the soothing influence of unfamiliar placidity; just as the mountain-lover, coming suddenly from the Alps, may find a new content and pleasure in the plains of Lombardy. Save in the Cossack tales of Gogol, and in the early romances of Tolstoi, there is little dramatic intensity in Russian fiction, although the chief Slavic writers certainly betray their tendency to take dramatic views of life in the abstract. One would ere long tire of the Russian literary method, if for nothing else than the infrequency of its dramatic revelations and the dominant bias towards a redundancy of trivial and wearisome details. Even Dostoiévsky, whose sombre romances afford a surfeit of human pain and misery, seldom introduces his dramatic incidents dramatically, while he constantly ruins his most effective situations by a dire enumeration of trivialities of the most inopportune nature. While Orloffsky cannot for a moment be compared with the great masters of Russian fiction, he is of quite sufficient eminence and popularity to deserve translation; and he is fortunate in having secured so satisfactory an interpreter as the Baroness Langenau. It is not always easy for a critic, ignorant of the language in which the book he is reviewing originally appeared, to assert the merits or demerits of a translated version. Special felicities of phrase and epithet are apt to be wholly missed or but indifferently rendered; while an interpreter with a literary bias is tempted to improve upon, or at least expand, certain passages of striking effect or import. But, so far as I can judge, the Baroness Langenau's translation from the Russian of Orloffsky is exceptionally painstaking and readable. The story itself is far too long. It is not, like Tolstoi's *Anna Karénina*, for instance, a novel where a host of minor events and records of fragmentary conversations constitute a consistent whole. Two-thirds of it could be spared, and if the deletion were skilfully executed the result would be a tale of considerable interest and psychological value. *Nadia* is a girl of earnest but very vague nihilistic proclivities; yet she duly suffers for her faith, and is the cause of agony to herself and others through her bitter and weary imprisonment of eighteen months. A double love-story runs through the novel, and Volodia and Jenny afford a bright contrast to the unhappy and distraught Dmitry and *Nadia*. In the end all is well, though but a brief space of happiness is allotted to the heroine. *Nadia*; or *Out of the Beaten Track* is much less sombre than the generality of Slavic novels; and as a vivid and presumably accurate picture of Russian provincial life it deserves to be widely read and appreciated.

Mr. Manville Fenn's new book has the indubitable advantage of novelty of scene. A story of ordinary social life interwoven with one of semi-civilised personages, with a Malayan settlement as a background, must in itself prove attractive to the jaded reader. *One Maid's Mischief* has reference to the evils and miseries wrought by the coquetry of a beautiful girl named Helen Perowne. The early part of the story is told with un-

necessary and wearisome expansion of minor matters, but when once Helen Perowne and her friend Gray Stuart are fairly settled at Sindang the interest becomes engrossing. The descriptions of life and scenery upon the great Malayan river are admirable, and the evolution of a sensational and startling plot should satisfy the most insistent craving for excitement. The Rajah Murad and the Inche Maida take leading parts in the tale, which is always most enthralling when dealing with the machinations and love affairs of these two amorous potentates. The best portions are those descriptive of Capt. Hilton's and Lieut. Chumbley's abduction by the Inche Maida; Helen's seizure by, and terrible experiences under, the lustful tyranny of the Rajah Murad; and the narrative of the "maid's" escape with the Malay girl, and, ultimately, with Dr. Bolter. Helen is too insufferably the coquette to win—notwithstanding her extreme beauty—the reader's sympathy; until at last she is discovered in the harem of the Rajah, and rendered in colour and otherwise like unto the Malay women. The other personages are lightly but ably sketched, although Scots will smile derisively at Mr. Stuart, the Caledonian merchant, with his impossible dialect. The Resident of Sindang, the officers Hilton and Chumbley, Dr. Bolter, Arthur Rosebury, the dreamy, impractical, botanising chaplain, are all true to life, and are pleasant acquaintances to meet. Mrs. Bolter, "the little lady," as Mr. Fenn refers to her about a thousand times, is meant to be an amusing example of female jealousy; but she simply wearies the reader by her vulgar stupidity, and, with all her estimable qualities, becomes ere long an intolerable bore. Wary readers will skip Mrs. Bolter as much as practicable. The real hero of the book is Chumbley, whose delightful and characteristic "fate" is something to envy from the depths of one's heart. Murad is "a very proper villain"; and when, despoiled of his rajahship for his crimes, he dies horribly, after running *amok* through the streets of Singapore, one is glad to know that *finis* can be written to the record of his life. With all its good qualities, *One Maid's Mischief* exemplifies the evil of the serial system. I am unaware whether or not this novel appeared serially, but it certainly must have been written for that purpose; and the result is unsatisfactory, so far as the book in its present form is concerned. There are also innumerable signs of hasty composition, which may have been unavoidable, but are none the less regrettable.

A New Face at the Door is, of its kind, an excellent story. The intriguing governess has, perhaps, become a superfluity in fiction; but when she rises to crime there is undoubtedly a malign fascination about her which her equally troublesome, but less dangerous, sister wholly lacks. Opal Carew is a very heartless, but a clever and unscrupulous, young lady, although, as is nature's way, she occasionally acts aright, and, moreover, even finds her wrongful intentions turn into fortunate events. There is a well-constructed plot; and the trial for the murder of Jack Daman is sufficiently thrilling. The reader feels from the outset that the accusation of Greta Charlstrom is baseless. Who the actual assassin was, and how the secret came to

light, need not be here disclosed. In point of literary finish, Miss Stanley's new story is an advance upon *A Daughter of the Gods*.

In *The Frozen Pirate*, the most enthralling romance which Mr. Clark Russell has written since *The Wreck of the Grosvenor*, one must be content to accept as possible the impossible germinal idea. The story turns upon two motives—the finding of a rich piratical ship frozen securely in Antarctic ice, and the recovery to active life, after close upon fifty years of stagnation, of Tassard the buccaneer. Whether or not the latter, the germinal idea, is original in its working-out I cannot say; in itself it is, of course, a modified and otherwise altered restatement of the case of the late Rip van Winkle. Probably more readers will be disposed to accept the marvellous restoration to life of the frozen pirate, Tassard, than to acknowledge the possibility of Mr. Rider Haggard's *She*; but the least discriminative can hardly fail to discern how almost grotesquely inferior is the account of the collapse through age of the infamous Tassard compared with the appalling end of Ayesha. No doubt the Tassard incident will be considered by many, especially by boy-readers, the strongest thing in the book; but I admit it seems to me so emphatic a demerit that it may prove a mill-stone round this romance when it comes to strive with the waters of oblivion. The restoration is a physical impossibility of so palpable a kind that one cannot deceive oneself into sympathetic credulity. Granted the possibility, however, it by no means follows that the weight of his passive years would speedily overcome the resuscitated pirate. If nature be capable of the arrestment of all the functions of mind and body, as is set forth by Mr. Clark Russell, she could simply begin to react, when the spell of passivity was broken, at the point where her potency had been abruptly interfered with. The story, however, is so rich in exciting detail, and is narrated with such rare power and skill, that the most carping critic must acknowledge its excellence. There has been no finer story of Antarctic adventure, at once so thrilling, so strange, and so realistic. Mr. Clark Russell's exceptional faculty for descriptive narrative is here exemplified at its best. In vivid beauty and effect there are passages transcending anything in *The Wreck of the Grosvenor*, or in *The Golden Hope*—and than this no higher praise could be given. It did not need *The Frozen Pirate* to place Mr. Russell indisputably foremost among all living writers of sea-life, but if there were any lingering doubt this romance would settle the uncertainty. Of necessity, the excitement somewhat flags after the grotesque death of Tassard, but the conclusion is reached with a skilful preservation of unexhausted interest.

To appreciate *Fools of Nature* one would need to be not only familiar, but in sympathy with, the phases of new England life therein described. It is of the wearisome school of Mr. W. D. Howells's narratives of nothing in particular, but without the charm of style which we find in the best productions of the author of *A Foregone Conclusion* and *The Lady of the Aroostook*. The motive of Miss Brown's story seems to be the exposure of the charlatanism of mediumistic spiritualists,

and from her point of view she makes out a damning case. But though one cannot regret having made the acquaintance of good, genial, foolish "Uncle Ben," it is with no sense save that of the relief which cometh from bored indifference that *Fools of Nature* is finally laid down.

Of the most radically distinct kind are the two translated French novels next on my list—both, however, already so well-known to all students of French fiction that a passing word will here be sufficient. That Emile Zola has expressed himself enthusiastically upon *Germinie Lacerteux*, as a supreme model for the "realistic" novelist pretty well explains the kind of book it is. It is a cold, skilful, intensely French narration of the retrogression of a human being towards a kind of swinish animalism. To term it a romance would be to betray an absolute incapacity to comprehend the true significance of that much-abused word; and yet it is not a novel as commonly understood. The medico-analytical school of fiction is working out its own destruction, and the best that can be said for such books as *Germinie Lacerteux* is that they conduce towards that end.

I do not suppose many people in France read Ernest Feydeau now. It is, at any rate, more complimentary to our neighbours to take their negligence in this respect for granted. But in its day *Fanny* caused such an amount of disputatious discussion that comparison thereof with the clamour which prevailed after "the battle of *Hernani*" would not be altogether inapposite. The book has thus a literary interest quite distinct from that of the record of Fanny's love affairs. The famous balcony scene, once regarded by *jeune France* as a piece of daring and powerful realism, seems now rather flat, and the agonies of the indignant and thwarted lover mere epileptic frenzy. The book's value, such as it is, is certainly enhanced by the author's long prefatory note, wherein, with overweening conceit, he recounts the genesis and development of his masterpiece.

Even extreme exuberance of puffing could hardly send a book into its seventy-fifth thousand unless it had exceptionally sensational literary fare to offer. *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab* has, it is asserted, taken Australia by storm—a fact which says a great deal for the genial patriotism of our countrymen overseas. The story is of the *Leavenworth Case* kind, but the absorbing interest is neither so skilfully maintained nor so ably set forth as in that popular tale. Mr. Fergus Hume's book is replete with grammatical and other errors, not all of which can be due to careless printers. When he has time to write with care and discrimination he will doubtless follow up his first brilliantly-successful but, from a literary point of view, valueless venture with a novel that will better deserve the plaudits of his fellow-Australians. WILLIAM SHARP.

GIFT BOOKS.

Lady Burton's Edition of her Husband's "Arabian Nights." Vol. V. (Waterlow & Sons.) Another of these beautiful volumes—the fifth of the series—reached us a few weeks

ago; and yet another may shortly be expected. The present instalment (which, by the way, is especially rich in learned and interesting foot-notes) contains *inter alia* the story of Hasan of Bassorah and the bird-maidens—an Oriental version of the "Swan-maidens"; one of those primitive myths which are the common property of the whole Aryan race. The description of the garden and pavilion in this story is justly characterised by the translator as "one of the most gorgeous in the Nights"—and to its gorgeousness his glowing and embroidered diction does ample justice. Told with Sir Richard Burton's consummate skill, and power of language, these old-world stories are ever fresh. Princes and king's daughters, barbers and fishermen, jinns and afrits succeed each other like the figures in a kaleidoscope. There is an unquestionable sameness of material; yet the combinations are infinitely varied, and the effect is always new. To weary of them is impossible. As Gray wished that he could lie for ever on a sofa and read "everlasting new novels of Crebillon and Marivaux," so, in truth, we might ask of fate no better boon than to sit by the fire all our winter evenings' long, reading everlasting new volumes of "Lady Burton's Household Edition of her Husband's 'Arabian Nights.'" And if such delicious leisure is denied to ourselves, we can, at all events, bestow it upon others. It would not be easy to imagine a more charming Christmas present for young people, at this "boxing" time of year, than Lady Burton's dainty and delightful series.

Tales of Ancient India. By Edmund C. Cox. (Bombay: Thacker.) All true national epic poems without exception have been made up from folk tales. To say this is, indeed, nothing more than to say that men and women must first have talked familiarly about those things which have furnished the materials for these poems; and if of the epics thus put together many have come down to us, many more probably have been lost, and many have died in early stages of their growth. The old folk tales of India have been embodied into epic poems more intricate and ponderous than those of my other country; and Mr. Cox in this little volume has made an effort to separate some of them from the contexts in which they are imbedded. The stories are thus brought into a form similar to that of his father's *Tales of Ancient Greece*. Of the twenty-four tales which make up the series, twelve relate to the birth, life, and death of Krishna; the rest reproduce the myths of Surya, Rama, Varuna, Indra, and other of the Vedic and Puranic gods and heroes. They are all given in a way which is likely to attract and interest children; and, apart from any amusement which the perusal may afford them, children will get some solid knowledge if they will compare them with the myths which they will find in the *Iliad*, the *Odyssey*, and elsewhere. They may, perhaps, think them not so well worth reading as the familiar tales in Grimm's collection. And, perhaps, they are not; but they will find the old features in a condition which shows the strangely flexible character of the Vedic deities. Taken as a whole, for instance, Krishna is the counterpart of the Hellenic Apollo more nearly, perhaps, than of any other of the Greek gods; but he is also the stealer of the cows, and his mode of stealing them as well as his defence after the theft carries us straight to the language of the Hymn to Hermes. Like Hermes, he is also the first to discourse sweet music; but as Hermes produces his melody from the strings stretched across the tortoise shell, so Krishna draws forth his harmonies from a reed which he hollows out and pierces with holes. The little book is dedicated to Mr. Cox's many Hindu friends.

It is to be hoped that these friends will tell their children that stories not altogether unlike them may be found in other parts of the world; and that it is a task for the wisest to try and see how such tales took shape, and from what source they came.

Indian Fables. By P. V. R. Raju. (Sonenschein.) Mr. Ramaswami Raju has brought together, in a very pretty little volume, the collection of illustrated Indian fables which has appeared during the last two years in the columns of the *Leisure Hour*. They are mostly beast-fables of the old-fashioned kind, and many of them have been known to the world since the times of Bidpay and Lokman. Their editor appears to have taken great pains to preserve the traditional form of the stories, if we may judge by the fact that the incidents of his version are very nearly the same as in that of Galland, who translated some of them from the Turkish early in the last century. The book ought to be a favourite with children as well as with the collectors of folklore.

The Seven Wise Scholars. By Ascott R. Hope. Illustrated by Gordon Browne. (Blackie.) The experienced writer for boys who prefers to be known to them only under the pseudonym of Ascott R. Hope won his reputation by his hearty descriptions of school-life. On the present occasion, the school is a mere vehicle for telling a series of marvellous stories, the extravagant fun of which has been aptly interpreted by Mr. Gordon Browne's facile pencil. This artist has his limitations; but he is never more happy than when giving expression to the humours of the modern boy.

The Diamond Lens. By F. O'Brien. (Ward & Downey.) This is a rather late republication of the tales of mystery and imagination which Mr. Fitz James O'Brien used to contribute to the *Atlantic Monthly* and other American magazines about the time of the war. The stories savour rather of Hoffmann than of Poe, and have a quaint weirdness of their own which entitles them to the praise of originality. The mesmerists, alchemists, and Dutch ghosts are somewhat conventional; but the wicked Wonder-Smith slain by an army of animated toys, and the loves of the Microscopist and the lady in the water-drop, are very excellent fooling. The story of the "What was it?" utilises the mediæval idea of demonality, and presents us with a new kind of Christmas ghost or invisible vampire, caught and killed in an American boarding-house, which really deserves to be popular.

Little Margit. By M. A. Hoyer. (Griffith, Farran, & Co.) Good fairy tales are always welcome to little folks; and, although *Little Margit* and the story that follows it seem insipid, some of the other tales are very pretty, and will be sure to take with children. The adventures of a bad boy—who climbed the church steeple and put a cap on the weather-cock and made the wind blow wrong, and played many other pranks for which he got turned out of the parish—are very interesting. So, too, is the "Old Château."

UNDER the title of *The Little Wonder Box*, Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co. have published a collection of Miss Jean Ingelow's short stories, bound up in six little volumes, as pretty as they are quaint.

SOME RELIGIOUS BOOKS OF THE SEASON.

The Church's Holy Year; Hymns and Poems for all the Sundays and Holy Days of the Church. By Rev. A. C. Richings. (Parker.) No more tempting subject to the religious poet can be imagined than verses set to the varying

tones of the Church's Sundays and Holy Days. Two such books at once occur to every reader—the *Christian Year* and the late Bishop Wordsworth's *Holy Year*. Between the stately music and somewhat melancholy views of the one and the wealth of Scripture lore shrined in the prosaic garb of the second, Mr. Richings may be said to hold a middle place. He weds some thought which comes out prominently in the teachings of the day with smooth and facile verse, without much sounding of its deeps, and yet in a strikingly felicitous manner. We are not surprised that these poems have reached a second edition. They are polished, and free from the doggerel which defaces so many hymns; and they cannot fail to be, as the author hopes, a devotional companion to many lovers of careful verse. A few lines may be quoted from the 20th Sunday after Trinity as a sample:

"How many hear the story read
Within God's sacred fane;
Nor heed the lesson, but go forth
Prepared to sin again.

"Thus we may mingle in God's House
Without the raiment white,
Which fits the soul for sacred feasts
And realms of pure delight;

"But when the King Himself appears
Who gave the loving feast;
The seamless robe He will require
For every wedding guest."

An Office of Prayer for the Use of the Clergy. By Rev. P. G. Medd. (S.P.C.K.) This little book consists of the office of special prayer, a collection of prayers for private use by the clergy, and an essay on the country clergyman's ideal, as it may be gathered from Keble's *Christian Year*. The first part—the office of special prayer—is mainly a cento from the Common Prayer-Book; the private prayers of the second part are far exceeded in depth and scriptural wealth by Bishop Andrews's well-known manual; and Herbert's "Country Parson" supplies a far nobler and simpler ideal than any which can be gathered from the *Christian Year*. But Mr. Medd's book may be useful to those who do not know the others, although the essay is somewhat cumbrous and verbose.

The Church and her Ministry; a Catechism. By Rev. E. J. Boyce. (S.P.C.K.) This is the book which has been so long wanted for all who have learned the Prayer-Book Catechism. It carries on and supplements its teachings in some thirty pages on the doctrines and ministry of the Church of England. No better manual could be used for the instruction of pupil teachers and candidates for confirmation.

THE author of *How to be Happy, though Married* (Rev. E. I. Hardy, Chaplain to the Forces), has collected a series of short and telling sermons under the title *Faint, yet Pursuing* (Fisher Unwin). About half of them were preached to soldiers; and all are, as might be expected, short, but weighty and incisive. Mr. Hardy does not waste time in introductions or circumlocutions, but at once states his subject, drives it home in a few concise sentences, adds a few anecdotes, illustrates it in a mode which must keep a congregation's attention, and ends with a few home-thrusts which ought to touch the most careless. Whether for pulpit use or as literature these sermons are much above the average.

Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit. By William Drysdale. (Charles Burnet & Co.) This "selection from the writings and sayings of Henry Ward Beecher" was "revised in part by Mr. Beecher, and under revision by him at the time of his death." Dr. Parker prefixes an "introductory note," in which he informs us that he "often thought of Mr. Beecher as a

kind of intellectual volcano—awful, sublime, talking fire”; but that “men would talk less about his greatness if they knew more about his gentleness. I have seen his tears.” This note would be better away. The proverbs are classified under different heads, such as Nature, Character, The Family, Religion, Christ; and they have been very carefully chosen and arranged. Mr. Beecher's writings yield a large harvest of pithy sayings, which are rarely very deep, but are always smart and sensible, and at their best indicate a wide and thorough acquaintance with the life and thoughts of the American citizen. Mr. Beecher's style, like his thought, will please the practical man rather than the contemplative. It is certainly not volcanic; but it is brisk and clear, and never for a moment dull.

Clare Vaughan. By Lady Lovat. (Burns & Oates.) Though boasting the imprimatur of Cardinal Manning this book cannot, for the majority of English readers, be pronounced wholesome reading. It is an addition to the not inconsiderable gallery of phthisical religionists, those eminent and saintly women with whom the hagiology of Romanism abounds, and of whom truth compels us to state that their morbid asceticism and devotion is so blended with defective organisation and physical disease as to make it difficult to analyse the resultant product, which may be termed without offence hypernatural sanctity. Cardinal Manning introduces the book to its readers as “a witness to the world of the sanctity of the only [sic] church of Jesus Christ, for on no other stem do such fruits grow.” We may readily and unregrettingly assent to the latter clause without concurring in the causal inference suggested by the word “for.”

Flash Lights. By Edith E. Smyth. (Nisbet.) This is a series of short chapters for Sunday reading, purporting to point out the “flash lights” to be found in God's Word. The author has been in the habit of flashing out such lights upon her Sunday scholars; but listening to such excellent sermonettes is happily a different thing from reading them. Little boys seldom read anything “goody” not in the form of a story; and, even then, they are apt to skip the moral. However, the book is simple and profitable, and, as such, we ought to be thankful for it. Some of the lines which end off each sermonette are likely, in the author's words, “to take up a little niche in the memory.” Here is one set:

Lo! my Father me arrays
In a garment new of praise;
It shall last me all my days.

The Life of St. Paul, by Rev. J. Stalker (Edinburgh: Clark), forms one of the series of “Handbooks for Bible Classes” now being issued by the enterprising firm of Messrs. Clark. It is a useful but not particularly striking compilation from larger works on the same subject.

The Continuity of Scripture. By Lord Hatherley. (S.P.C.K.) Lord Hatherley's useful little work is so well known that we need do no more than welcome its appearance in a new and revised edition.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish, about the middle of January, a volume of essays by Prof. Karl Pearson, of University College, London, which will take its title from the introductory essay on “The Ethic of Free Thought.” The essays are fifteen in number, arranged in three groups of five each. The first group will deal generally with the philosophy of free thought in relation to science and morals. The second group is historical, and will give special atten-

tion to the German reformers and revolutionists of the sixteenth century. In the third group of essays the author directly addresses himself to the social and economical questions of the day from the standpoint of socialism.

MR. H. C. BANISTER, having undertaken the preparation of a memoir of the late Sir G. A. Macfarren, will feel obliged by the loan of any letters of interest, especially such as bear upon musical matters, or which illustrate his personal character and opinions. Such letters, which may be forwarded to the care of Messrs. George Bell & Sons, York-street, Covent Garden, will be most carefully preserved, and returned at the earliest opportunity.

WE hear that the Rev. John Owen, author of *Evenings with the Skeptics*, and other works, is a candidate for the Gifford Lectureship in Natural Theology in the University of Edinburgh. He has been urged by his friends to apply because they recognise in his book on the Skeptics the free, and at the same time reverent treatment of the subject which the Gifford bequest prescribes.

MESSRS. BENTLEY & SON will begin at once the publication of a new edition of the late Mrs. Henry Wood's novels at a popular price. *East Lynne* will appear in the middle of next month, to be followed by *The Channings* in February, and *Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles* in March, and so on in monthly volumes until the total of some thirty novels is finished.

THE same publishers announce a new monthly periodical, to be called *Men and Women of the Day*. Each number will contain three portraits of contemporary celebrities, of what is called “panel” size, printed in permanent photography, together with brief memoirs. The contents of the first part, to appear in January, will be the Marquis of Hartington, Cardinal Newman, and Miss Mary Anderson.

THE next volume in the series of “Canterbury Poets,” published by Mr. Walter Scott, will be *Australian Ballads and Rhymes*; or, Poems inspired by Life and Scenery in Australia and New Zealand. The selection has been made by Mr. Douglas B. W. Sladen, himself an Australian and a poet.

MR. CHARLES MARVIN has in the press a pamphlet, entitled *English Africa*: shall Boer and German sway it? dealing with the Delagoa Question, the proposed protectorate over Amatongaland, and the rivalry between Germans and English in South Africa.

Christ the Key of the Psalter is the title of a new volume by an Oxford Graduate announced by Mr. Elliot Stock.

MR. HORACE WEIR has written a local story for the *Derby Reporter*, under the title of “At the Sign of the White House.”

THE Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh will proceed to appoint a Gifford lecturer on natural theology about the end of January. The tenure of office is for two years, and may be renewed once only for a like period. The emoluments consist of the yearly interest of Lord Gifford's bequest of £25,000. The lecturer is required to give at least twenty public lectures annually, and he may, in addition, form a special class for teaching the subject to university students. The lecturer will probably be required to enter upon his duties in January 1889.

A SERIES of nine free lectures on “Centres of Spiritual Activity” will be delivered by representatives of different religious bodies at the South Place Institute, Finsbury, during the months of January and February, on Sundays, at 4 p.m. The introductory lecture of the series, to be given to-morrow, will be on “The Common Ground of the Religious Sentiment,” by Mr. Edward Clodd. The other lectures

include Canon Curteis, the Rev. Edward White, Mr. Frederic Harrison, Prof. D. W. Marks, and the Rev. Henry W. Crosskey, of Birmingham.

THE Society of Cymmrodorion will hold an educational conference on Thursday and Friday next, January 5 and 6, in the Guildhall of Shrewsbury. The subject of discussion is “The Future Development of the Welsh Educational System, considered from the Scholastic Point of View.”

THE third meeting of the west branch of the English Goethe Society was held at Craven Hill House, the residence of Miss Emerson, on Thursday evening, December 22, when Goethe's *Lustspiel*, “Die Wette,” was read by the members, after which Miss Lena Little sang “Der König von Thule,” “Wanderer's Nachtlied,” and “Mignon” to Liszt's music, accompanied by Mr. Walter Bache. The evening terminated by a pianoforte solo of Liszt's “Goethe-Marsch,” by the same gentleman. For the next meeting, on January 21, the committee are preparing, under Mr. Walter Bache's direction, a “Faust” evening, in which Liszt's symphony, arranged for two pianos and a male chorus, is to be performed.

MR. COLLINS requests us to state that when he represented Prof. Nettleship as opposed to the University Extension Lectures, he simply deduced what he asserted from Prof. Nettleship's own words on page 19 of his pamphlet.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

IRENE (ætat 13).

I.

AMONG the purple mountain-folds I sought
And sought, in vain, for peace. I sought in vain

In dreamy woods; along th' enchanted main;
In kindly hamlets. Then with books I wrought,
Seeking for peace in toil, which only brought
Dull discontent and weariness of brain.

“Where art thou, Peace?” I cried: “Oh, soothe this pain
Of tearful longing and of throbbing thought!”

A sweet voice answered. Laughter glad and clear
Set the birds singing. Beautiful bright eyes
Made a new dawn. A sweet voice answered:
“Cease

From further fruitless searching. I am here—
In flower of flesh and blood, of perfect size,
Quite loving—Your Irene! I am PEACE!”

II.

Peace, with her chatter and infectious glee;
Peace, swinging mad-cap on a springy bough,
With bright hair blown and tumbled anyhow;
Peace, paddling in a shoal of summer sea;
Peace, at high revel up an apple-tree;
Peace, reading with a bent and dreamy brow;
Peace, on a footstool—very peaceful now—
Listening with hands clasped fondly on my knee!

No abstract noun, no mythic shape divine,
No sweet elusive dream of who knows what,
But just a child, she brings my heart surcease
Of care; and, when she puts her cheek to mine
Bliss, and complete contentment with my lot.
Yes, this is my Irene—this is PEACE.

WILLIAM CANTON.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE principal articles in the *Revista Contemporanea* of November are on the Chinese immigration to the Philippine Islands, by Ramon Jordana. He warns his countrymen of possible future danger by the history of the insurrections and wars incited there by the Chinese in the past. Cristoval Botella gives a good historical sketch of French social theories. There is a sacred epithalamium on the golden wedding of Leo. XIII. both in Latin and in Spanish elegiacs. We prefer the former. But we wonder if the future historian will accept as literally

true from contemporary documents such phrases as:

"Quamvis nunc, alter Petrus, detrusus in atro Carcere permanens."

Catalina Garcia continues his "Brihuega and its Fuero," arriving at last at the text of the document. We have also the report by Eduardo Abela of the Agricultural Association of Spain. Among other imperious needs the primary one of security to the labourer and isolated farmer is still lacking in many parts of that country.

We learn from the November *Boletín* of the Real Academia de la Historia that it has sent a request to the Historical Commission in the Canary Islands to photograph, or have casts made of, all inscriptions found there, and promises speedy publication. Dr. Rudolph Beer has discovered at Leon a palimpsest of the Lex Romana Wisigothorum, of which no previous MS. was known in Spain. He also describes the five volumes which Bernard of Brihuega made for Alfonso the Wise, which are still unpublished. Adolfo de Castro gives some curious notes on the colonies of Orientals at Cadiz in the last two centuries. But the bulk of the number is occupied with historical documents relating to La Guardia, collected by Father F. Fita. Their chief interest lies in the history of the Jews. In 1236 the chapter of Toledo complained to Rome of Archbishop Roderic for employing Jews as his fiscal agents. There are also some valuable texts of the time of the expulsion (1491-3), and of the appeals of the Jews for protection to the kings. Some recently found Latin inscriptions seem to prove that Talavera la Vieja was the Augustobriga of the Romans.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- AIMARD, G. Le Brésil nouveau. Paris: Dentu. 8 fr.
 BUCHER, B. Die Glassammlung d. k. k. österreich. Museums f. Kunst- u. Industrie. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 20 M.
 GREFFKEN, F. H. Politische Federzeichnungen. Berlin: Allg. Verein f. deutsche Literatur. 6 M.
 KARABACEK, J. Das arabische Papier. Wien: Hof- u. Staatsdruckerei. 6 M.
 KOCH, J. U. F. SEITZ. Das Heidelberger Schloss. 1. Lfg. Darmstadt: Bergsträsser. 20 M.
 MUSSET, G. Les faïenceries Rochelaises. La Rochelle. 25 fr.
 OVERBECK, J. Griechische Mythologie. Besonderer Teil. 3. Bd. 5. Buch. Apollon. 1. Lfg. Leipzig: Engelmann. 10 M.
 PUCHSTEIN, O. Das ionische Capitell. 47. Programm zum Winkelmännchenfest. Berlin: Reimer. 3 M.
 SCHMIDT, K. W. Sansibar. Ein ostafrikan. Cultur-bild. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 4 M. 50 Pf.
 STAUBER, A. Das Studium der Geographie in u. ausser der Schule. Augsburg: Reichel. 3 M. 20 Pf.
 WISNER, J. Die mikroskopische Untersuchung d. Papiers, m. besond. Berücksicht. der ältesten orientalischen u. europäischen Papiere. Wien: Hof- u. Staatsdruckerei. 6 M.

THEOLOGY, ETC.

- STUDIEN U. SKIZZEN, theologische, aus Ostpreussen. 1-5. Hft. Königsberg-L.-Pr.: Hartung. 7 M. 50 Pf.
 SULCHAN-ARUKH (Gedechte Tafel) od. das Ritual- u. Gesetzbuch d. Judentums. Zum ersten Male aus dem Orig. frei übers. u. mit Quellangaben. Erläuterungen etc. versehen v. J. A. F. E. L. V. V. Pavly. 1. Lfg. Zürich: Schabelitz. 4 M.

HISTORY.

- RECUEIL des traités de la France. T. 15. Supplément. 1713-1885. Paris: Pedone-Lauriel. 35 fr.
 REGESTEN der Pfalzgrafen am Rhein 1214-1400. 2. Lfg. Innsbruck: Wagner. 4 M.
 SCHMIDT, W. Romano-catholici per Moldavia episcopatus et rei romano-catholice res gestae. Budapest: Kilián. 6 M.
 SCHULTZ, A. Geschichte der Habsburger in den ersten drei Jahrhunderten. Innsbruck: Wagner. 4 M.
 TROUETTE, E. L'île Bourbon pendant la période révolutionnaire de 1789 à 1803. T. 1. Paris: Chaillemel. 10 fr.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- BELLOC, E. Les Diatomées de Luchon et des Pyrénées centrales. Paris: Lechevalier. 4 fr. 50 c.
 CAMUS, E. G. Catalogue des plantes de France, de Suisse et de Belgique. Paris: Lechevalier. 4 fr. 25 c.
 GADRAU DE KERVILLE, H. Les Insectes phosphorescents. Notes complémentaires et bibliographie générale. Paris: Lechevalier. 2 fr. 50 c.

- GABRIEL, C. M. Physique. Paris: Baudry. 20 fr.
 HERTWIG, O. Lehrbuch der Entwicklungsgeschichte der Menschen u. der Wirbelthiere. 2. Abth. Jena: Fischer. 8 M. 50 Pf.
 SENAC, H. Essai monographique sur le genre *Pimelia* (Fabricius). Paris: Lechevalier. 10 fr.
 STUDIEN, Berliner f. klassische Philologie u. Archäologie. 7. Bd. 1. Hft. Die Erkenntnistheorie der Stoa. Von L. Stein. Berlin: Calvary. 12 M.

PHILOLOGY.

- BERGE, Th. Griechische Literaturgeschichte. 4. Bd. Aus dem Nachlass hrsg. v. R. Peppmüller. Berlin: Weidmann. 8 M.
 EVILLÉ, A. Glossaire Saintongeais. Bordeaux: Vve Moquet. 15 fr.
 HILGARD, A. Excerpta ex libris Herodiani technici. Berlin: Calvary. 2 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WILLIAM BARNES AND CONTEMPORARY CRITICISM.

Athenaeum Club: Dec. 28, 1887.

In his review of the *Life of William Barnes* (December 24), Mr. H. Bradley states his dissent from "the eccentric judgment recently pronounced at Oxford, which ranks William Barnes second among the poets of the Victorian age." And for this "paradox" he must, apparently, refer to a few words in the memorandum of a visit to the aged poet, which Mrs. Baxter has honoured me by quoting in the *Life*; as in the lecture on Barnes, given at Oxford in November, 1886, and printed in the *National Review* for the February following, I have only said that "contemporary critical judgment is always so thoroughly insecure that it will be best to make no attempt to assign the place, due to the poet whom England has lost, in our literature."

To this rule it might have been best had I conformed strictly. But, to clear myself from the rash dogmatic judgment above assigned to me, I quote the words which I used from p. 313 of the *Life*: "This aged poet seems to me to stand second only to Tennyson in the last half century." Of the interpretation given by Mr. Bradley, I have no complaint to make. It was naturally enough deduced from a phrase written down without thought that it would go farther. My meaning, however, was that putting Tennyson as (in my eyes) our greatest "Victorian" poet—Wordsworth, who died in 1850, having done almost all his work before 1837—Barnes seemed to me, by clear right, to rank in the foremost line of those after Tennyson—a band whom I should not desire or presume to enumerate, but with, not above, whom Barnes should be recognised. This opinion (it claims to be no more), containing not one but two items of "contentious matter," may very likely also seem eccentric and paradoxical to many readers, although, from the general tone of Mr. Bradley's criticism, I should hope he might be disposed not to look on it with such disfavour.

From this personal explanation, with which I regret to trouble you, let me return for a moment to the general question of the validity of contemporary criticism. It is so natural to compare our favourite writer with his fellows past or present, and to fix his place among them, that of the—ten or twelve shall I say?—English writing poets of our time who, in different ways, may be called leaders, there is hardly one whom we have not seen in turn confidently hailed as lord paramount of Parnassus, and destined (if not resolved into a myth, or into someone else) for the too shadowy Valhalla of literary immortality. Among these verdicts doubtless one will be approved by the "wise testimony of the years to come"; yet, although in our hearts we each believe that the lucky and lasting verdict is our own, should we not be warned by these contradictory judgments of the day, and, even more, by the vast number of dead forgotten writers, each heralded as an immortal in his age, to refrain—and this in the interest

of our own special favourite and benefactor? It is but a truism that over-praise is fated to precede under-estimation. Are there not visible signs that the enthusiastic worship now paid in many quarters to recent or contemporary poets of genius is already bringing on the inevitable reaction? It is becoming a proof of the vital power and greatness of some that they survive the dangerous idolatry paid by over-zealous biographers, or by the societies of which they are the patron saints. Those wise words of Tacitus—"Pessimum inimicorum genus laudantes"—seem to have been written to warn against excesses which, however well intended and natural, in the end do but serve the cause of Philistia. If any readers think that your correspondent has sinned thus, *habetis confidentem reum*.

F. T. PALGRAVE.

THE ISIS, THE OCK, AND OXFORD.

Nottingham: Dec. 17, 1887.

Mr. Bradley (*ACADEMY*, September 24) admits that "Ise" (which, according to the map cited by Mr. Murray, is the earliest form of the name of the Isis) is a possible river-name; and he instances the Northamptonshire "Ise." He remarks that "if the A.S. form is *Ys*, it might descend from a prehistoric [Celtic] *Usia*, related to, though not identical with, *Ouse*."

I find that this Northamptonshire Ise is recorded in a Kettering charter of A.D. 956, printed in Birch, *Cartularium Saxonicum*, iii., p. 121, and in Kemble, iii., p. 439. The boundaries proceed from "Cranléa brieg" (Cranley), &c., to the long dyke or ditch, thence to "Wicléa forda andlang Ysan þæt [hit] cymð to Pihtes-léa [Pythley] forda," &c. The nominative of this name would be, I suppose, "Yse," declined as a *-jón* stem. This does not exactly support Mr. Bradley's suggestion; but the difference in form is of slight consequence. The Ise is recorded in the list of river-names printed at the end of Vigfusson and Cleasby's Icelandic dictionary as *Ysa*, which supports an O.E. *Yse*. Perhaps the same name may be recorded in the Hampshire "Ysan" or "Isan pyttas," A.D. 854 (*Cart. Sax.* ii. 71, 11), and "isen gráfas," in the same county (*id.* ii. 44, 19), and the "isen hyrst" of *Cod. Dipl.* iii. 130, 27; 131, 19, A.D. 976, may possibly be derived from "Yse," rather than from *isen*, "iron," from which Kemble derives it.

The Abingdon history supports the opinion that the portion of the river now known as the Isis was anciently known only by the name Thames. There are many references to this river in the Abingdon charters, but it is nowhere called the Isis. It is called the Thames even above Oxford; and the earliest version of the Chronicle (MS. Cott. Claud. c. ix.) states that "Mons Abbdone ad septentrionalem plagam Tamese fluvii, ubi praeter meat pontem Oxenefordis urbis, situs est" (vol. i., p. 1, note). At p. 181 it is called the "Temese" at Hinksey (Hengestes-ieg), and it bore the same name at its junction with the Cherwell (i. 126) and at Ifley (Gifteleia? i. 89). Above Oxford, the Thames is mentioned at Kingston Bagpuiz (i. 351), at Worth in Faringdon (i. 246, 260), and at Fyfield (set Fif-bidum? i. 325). There are several references to the river between Abingdon and its junction with the Thames; and it is called in every case the Thames; and not the Isis. With the evidence of the Abingdon charters before us, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the Isis is a spurious name manufactured from the Latinised "Tamesis."

The Abingdon charters afford proof, if farther proof were wanted, of the absurdity of the derivation of "Oxford" from the river "Ock." That stream and its branches were known as the "Eo-cc-e." I give the instances of its occurrence in alphabetical order.

Abingdon: A.D. 955, "Eccen, acc.; *Curt. Sax.* iii. 68, 23; *Chron. Mon. de Abing.* i. 126, 26. A.D. 956, "Eo-ccen," dat., "Eo-ccenes," gen.; *Curt. Sax.* iii. 96, 14, 15; *Chron. Ab. i.* 176, 2; 177, 6.

Ashbury: A.D. 856, "Eo-ccenen," acc.; *Curt. Sax.* ii. 94, 20 (dubious charter). A.D. 944, "Eo-ccen," acc.; *Curt. Sax.* ii. 549, 36.

Drayton: A.D. 958, "Oeccene," acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* v. 397, 17; *Chron. Ab. i.* 248, 22. A.D. 960, "Oeccene," acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 28, 15; *Chron. Ab. i.* 272, 4.

Fyfield? (set Fit-hidum): A.D. 956, "Eo-ccen," acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* v. 386, 30; *Chron. Ab. i.* 233, 14. A.D. 968, "Eo-ccan," dat., acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* iii. 466, 13, 18; *Chron. Ab. i.* 324, 26; 325, 4.

Gareford (Garan-ford): A.D. 940, "Eo-ccen," "Eo-ccan," gen., acc.; *Curt. Sax.* ii. 489, 6, 8; *Chron. Ab. i.* 95, 5, 8.

Goosey (Gos-ieg): A.D. 959, "Eccen," "Eo-ccen," dat., gen.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 8, 20; *Chron. Ab. i.* 259, 27. Cf. *Chron. Ab. i.* 14, 9.

Hanney: A.D. 956, "Eo-ccene," acc., gen.; *Cod. Dipl.* v. 370, 9; *Chron. Ab. i.* 206, 4. A.D. 968, "Oeccene," acc., gen.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 86, 17; *Chron. Ab. i.* 274, 14.

Kingston Bagpuiz: A.D. 965, "Eccene," dat., acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 109, 28; 110, 7; *Chron. Ab. i.* 350, 29; 351, 9. A.D. 976, "Eo-ccene," dat., acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 107, 33; 108, 10; *Chron. Ab. i.* 353, 9, 19.

Lyford* (Linford): A.D. 944, "Eo-ccene," "Eccene," dat.; *Curt. Sax.* ii. 552, 17; *Chron. Ab. i.* 107, 21. A.D. 1032, "Eo-ccan," dat., acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* iv. 39, 6, 11; *Chron. Ab. i.* 440, 4, 10.

Marcham: A.D. 955, "Eo-ccan," dat. acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 75, 28; 76, 2; *Chron. Ab. i.* 265, 9, 15.

Shellingford: A.D. 931, "Eo-ccen," acc.; *Curt. Sax.* ii. 374, 9, 16; *Chron. Ab. i.* 65, 12, 22.

Worth, in Faringdon parish (Stevenson): A.D. 958, "Eo-ccen," dat. acc. gen.; *Cod. Dipl.* vi. 8, 25; 9, 1, 2; *Chron. Ab. i.* 260, 7, 19, 20. A.D. 958, "Eccene," acc.; *Cod. Dipl.* v. 395, 33; *Chron. Ab. i.* 246, 13.

From these forms I deduce an Old-English nom. "Eoce," gen., dat., and acc. "Eo-ccan." It must be remembered that the chronicle is a thirteenth-century MS. and the compiler is, no doubt, responsible for the mute *e*'s and the occasional redundant gen. *es* in such forms as "Eo-ccene," "Eo-ccenes." The derivation of "Ock" from "Eo-cca" presents some difficulty, for that form would have yielded "Eck." But there can be no doubt of the identity of the "Eo-ccc" and the "Ock." It is called the "Eoche," A.D. 1066-1087, in vol. ii., p. 10, 28, and p. 64, 3, A.D. 1100-1135. It appears to be occasionally called the "Occe"—e.g., A.D. 953-955, "Oecene [=Oecan] wyllas," the source of the Ock, at Ashbury (*Curt. Sax.* iii. 62, 24), and there is an "Occenes" or "Eo-ccenes gjerstun" referred to at Abingdon in A.D. 955-956 (*Curt. Sax.* iii. 68, 23; 97, 5, 14; *Chron. Ab. i.* 126, 26; 176, 2, 3; 177, 6). This would be, I suppose, an enclosure of grassland abutting on the Ock at Abingdon. But it may be that "Occe" is, in both cases, a mistake of the scribe for the usual "Eo-ccc."

As "Eo-ccc" was the Old-English name of the Ock, it follows that a ford over that river would have been called "Eo-ccan-ford." It is a very long cry from such a form as this to "Oxna-ford," the Old-English name of Oxford. And it is rather an awkward thing for the

adherents of the "Ocks-ford" theory that there was a ford over the Ock at Abingdon, and that it was known as "Eo-ccan-ford." It is called "Eo-ccen-ford" in A.D. 955 (*Curt. Sax.* iii. 68, 9, 23; *Chron. Ab. i.* 126, 6, 27). It occurs about 1180 in the form that we should expect it to have by then assumed—"Eo-cka-ford" (*Chron. Ab. i.* 323, 28). This, again, is impossible to reconcile with the contemporary "Oxeneford," &c. It is not consonant with reason that of two fords over the Ock, lying within six or seven miles of each other and both deriving their name from the Ock, one should be called "Eo-ccan-ford" and the other "Oxna-ford." But it is really unnecessary to further discuss the fantastic dream that Oxford means "the ford of the Ock" and not "the ford of oxen," for it is a delusion that no philologist worthy of the name would cherish for more than five minutes. There seems to be a feeling among young Oxford men that the derivation of the name from "ford for oxen" is incompatible with the dignity and glory of their university, and hence many of them fly to this "Ocks-ford" theory, or to some even more impossible Celtic derivation of the name. I put these objections on record for the guidance of those who are thus misled by a mistaken sense of local patriotism, for I have not the faintest hope of converting the professed advocates of this "Ocks-ford" theory. This must be my excuse for reverting to a subject that has been so well thrashed out in these columns.

W. H. STEVENSON.

THE TODD LECTURES.

Mitchelstown: Dec 14, 1887.

Looking through the volume of the Todd Lecture Series, just issued by the Royal Irish Academy, I observed the following in the Peter and Paul Passion. The portions of the original expressed in cypher are not distinguished by the lecturer.

"Is ann-sin tra airmitnig na Cristaigi lith ocus foraitmet na da noem apstal sa; itat kalaidd Iuil," &c. (p. 87). This text, an elementary knowledge shows, is impossible. To begin with, it does not contain what *ann-sin* stands for. Next, an antecedent is wanting for the relative. Finally, *kalaidd* (nom. *kalne**) being the gen., *tat* has no subject.

Going on to the paraphrastic rendering (a word-for-word version is nicknamed "a slavishly literal translation," p. 276), we have: "It is at this time the Christians celebrate the festival and commemoration of these two holy apostles, on the calends of July," &c. (p. 330). Shade of the Culdee, "the feast of Paul and Peter," on July 1! On the calends, it is scarcely necessary to observe, has no counterpart in the Irish. The Glossary, mayhap, will clear up the obscurity. Therein we find: "Perhaps: is ann-sin (viz., on that day) i-tat kal. Iul?" [*lege Iuil*] (p. 897). But the conjecture labours under the radical defect that this sentence is not Irish.

What, then, is to be done? The crux plainly lies in *itat*. Now, the explanation is so simple that the wonder is how the muddle could have been created. Turning to the lithographed edition, p. 172 b, l. 67, one glance suffices to unravel the tangle. The form is *itt*: the *t*'s joined, and a horizontal line drawn overhead. The reading is accordingly (not *itat*, but) *itert*; meaning that the festival in question fell on the third of the calends of July—June 29. More unaccountably still; the self-same contraction occurs at p. 72 b, l. 46, and is here lengthened (p. 216) and translated (p. 453) with accuracy.

* "Gen. pl. *kalne* and *kalland*" (*Calendar of Oengus*, ed. Stokes, p. ccxxix). Does the editor think so still with respect to *kalne*?

It is not, of course, to be assumed that all who use this volume will be able or willing to undergo the drudgery of collating 235 octavo pages with the MS. or the facsimile. Advocates for printing contracted portions in distinctive type can consequently, it must be admitted, point to the foregoing in support of their contention.

B. MACCARTHY.

"MORT" "AMORT."

Nervi: Dec. 21, 1887.

May I venture to suggest that the term "smort," fem. "smorta," is used in the Piedmontese dialect to denote a pale, dejected, death-like appearance. Surely this is but a slightly modified form of the word "mort" "amort," upon which so much has of late been written; and if so, would it not be interesting to trace the date of its importation into East-Anglia? I am not in a position to find out whether it is a Provençal appellative as well. All I can say is that on this side of the Alps it is confined to the principality of Piedmont.

J. GONINO.

"DIM SASSENACH."

Dec. 24, 1887.

Your reviewer (ACADEMY, December 24, p. 421) is mistaken in supposing that the Welshman's "dim Sasneg" ought, of course, to be "dim Sassenach." The latter, misspelt from *Sassunach*, is the Gaelic form; the Welsh word is *Saesneg* or *Seisneg*, contracted by pronunciation into "Saesneg" or "Seisneg."

C. S. JERRAM.

AI POINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, January 2, 5 p.m. London Institution: "Visible Stars," I., by Sir R. S. Ball.
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "Painting," I., by Mr. J. E. Hodgson.
8 p.m. Victoria Institute: "Natural Selection," by Prof. Duns.
TUESDAY, Jan. 3, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Astronomy, IV, the Great Planets," by Sir R. S. Ball.
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4, 7 p.m. Society of Arts: Juvenile Lecture, "The Application of Electricity to Lighting and Working," I., by Mr. W. H. Preece.
THURSDAY, Jan. 5, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Astronomy, V, the Comets," by Sir R. S. Ball.
6 p.m. London Institution: "Material of Music, IV, Composition," by Mr. W. A. Barrett.
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "Painting," II., by Mr. J. E. Hodgson.
FRIDAY, Jan. 6, 8 p.m. Geologists' Association: "The Occurrence of Gold in North Wales," illustrated with specimens, by Mr. T. A. Readwin.
SATURDAY, Jan. 7, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Astronomy, VI, the Stars," by Sir R. S. Ball.

SCIENCE.

DE QUATREFAGES ON PREHISTORIC MAN.

Introduction à l'Etude des Races Humaines.

Par A. de Quatrefages. (Paris: Henuyer.)

UNDER the common title of "Histoire Générale des Races Humaines," MM. de Quatrefages and Hamy are editing a series of ethnographic works, to which this sumptuous volume forms an introduction. Unfortunately, with all the deference due to a master in science of the old school, it must be confessed that M. de Quatrefages has outlived his day. His persistent rejection of evolutionism, and his inability even to read himself into the position of the younger workers on anthropological and ethnographical questions, will probably render his magnificent undertaking, planned on a truly gigantic scale, of but little service to the cause of science. For a knowledge of anthropometrical and ethnological facts, of course, the veteran professor has few equals in Europe; but the problems he proposes to himself and the solutions he gives for them

* This is evidently Lyford, and not Linford, Bucks, as Stevenson and Birch assert. Besides being on the Eo-ccc, Linford was near Cillan-rin, a water-course that is mentioned at Hanney (*Chron. Ab. i.* 206, 2; 240, 291; 274, 12), at Denchworth (*id.* i. 137, 5), and at Gareford (*id.* i. 95, 5).

belong entirely to a circle of ideas now finally left behind, and no longer of the slightest import or interest to the vast mass of anthropological students.

M. de Quatrefages begins with the purely otiose and fantastic question whether man should be included in the animal kingdom—an astonishing question at any time, and still more profoundly astonishing at the present day—which he answers by placing him separately in a human kingdom all by himself, elevated to an equality with the animal and vegetable kingdoms of popular natural history, and characterised by the possession of the attributes of *moralité et religiosité*. Next, he attacks the problem of the unity of the human species, which he defends against the thrice-slain polygenists by the analogy of dogs, poultry, and pigeons. Examining, in the third place, the origin of mankind, he declares himself still the uncompromising antagonist of "transformism," and refuses in any way to account for the presence of man on the earth. Nowhere does the narrow and unimaginative French scientific spirit—the statical spirit, the determination to cling passionately to the given fact, eschewing as fanciful all inference and all constructive effort—come out more strongly than in the mind of De Quatrefages. On the other hand, his treatment of the question of antiquity admirably displays his loyalty to fact alone, when definite facts are really forthcoming. He gives an excellent critical summary of the evidence as to quaternary man, and he accepts as genuinely human many of the alleged flint weapons from tertiary deposits. While admitting that some doubt still surrounds the Abbé Bourgeois's specimens from the Calcaire de Beauce, he figures certain flints from the Upper Miocene of Puy-Courney (Cantal), which show all the characteristic marks of human chipping and subsequent usage. He urges, also, for the human origin of the remarkable scratches on the Balenotus rib discovered by Dr. Capellini in the Sienna Pliocene; and he endorses the discoveries of Signor Ragazzoni at Castelnedolo. But he cannot swallow the Calaveras mortars, nor admit the tertiary date of the remains associated with the carapace of a glyptodon in the Pampas deposits. Moreover, he insists strongly on the survival—at least, in an erratic form—of the earliest human types to the present day. Bruce, he says, had a skull of the Canstadt type, while the Cro Magnon race still exists among the Kabyles of Algeria.

On the point of geographical origin, M. de Quatrefages will have none of Lemuria—not, of course, on the grounds which would influence Mr. Alfred Russel Wallace—but simply because he does not see the necessity for any such hypothesis. In the warm tertiary times when man, as he believes, first appeared upon earth, the central Asiatic plateau was, doubtless, almost tropical in climate. On ethnographic and linguistic grounds he places here the cradle of humanity. Hence man dispersed himself right and left, mainly through the changes wrought by the coming on of the glacial epoch. His migrations brought him face to face with fresh conditions; and acclimatisation to these conditions accounts, in M. de Quatrefages's opinion, by direct action, for the formation of the various races of mankind. He does not even mention natural

selection or sexual selection. The *Descent of Man* might never have been written for any notice he deigns to take of it. This is not wisdom. You may agree with Darwin, or you may differ from him, but, at the present time of day, you cannot afford to ignore him.

As a whole, the book remains a melancholy monument of misdirected industry. Its collection of data is admirable and scientific. The use it makes of them is wholly and hopelessly behind the times. It is only in France that men of science of equal calibre could think of putting forth so great a work on lines so utterly out of date. M. de Quatrefages has his arguments with Knox and Agassiz, with Morton and St. Hilaire; when he condescends to notice the ideas of Darwin and Huxley, Haeckel and Gaudry at all, it is to brush them aside as mere passing modern extravagances. Herein he acts unwisely. It is not well in science to bring up the rear.

GRANT ALLEN.

THE YUEH-TI AND THE EARLY BUDDHIST MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

THE nationality of the early missionaries of Buddhism in China, which we find recorded in the literature of the Celestial Empire, is an interesting matter for the history of their religion. It gives an inkling as to some of the countries which had received with favour the teachings of the disciples of Sakyamuni. I only wish here to call attention to a few of the names of countries mentioned, and especially to the Yueh-ti, because of several misapprehensions which have occurred about them.

It is after the arrival in China, in A.D. 67, of Kasyapa Matanga and Gobharana, who came on the invitation of Ts'ai-yin, sent by the Han Emperor Ming-ti in A.D. 65, that some information is fragmentarily coming to light regarding the nationality of the individual missionaries. Attention has already been called to this subject in Prof. Max Müller's *Selected Essays*, vol. ii., and also to a device frequently resorted to, which consisted in prefixing the missionary's name with a symbol suggestive of his country or of his avocation.

Such is the symbol *chu* in *Chu-fah-lan*, which are the sounds commonly and wrongly given as the equivalent of the name of Kasyapa's companion, and which call for a few remarks. *Chu*, or better *tuh*, the symbol having the two sounds and the latter being the older, ought to be read *tuh*, and not *chu*, when it refers to India. It is a rule in Chinese phonetics that the dentals pass to the hushing consonants. This is shown by the simple fact that, in the various transcriptions of the name of India, *tuh* is the sound represented, and not *chu*, and that the original name imitated is *sindu*, and not *sinchu*. Should we look to the composition of the Chinese symbol, framed as it was by the Buddhists themselves, we might find reason to suppose that it was intended to be read **sentu*, **shentu*, or the like, in approximate imitation of the original name. It is composed of two signs, one above the other; the upper one is that which is read *tuh* or *chu*, while the lower one is an ancient form of *shang*, "high" or "lofty." This hypothesis finds a confirmation in a variant of spelling where this character *shang* is replaced by another one, of which the sound is *sh'ang*, "elegant."

The syllable *fah* of *chu-fah-lan* is almost certainly a misreading. It is written with a symbol which has indeed this reading in modern Chinese. But the Buddhist missionaries generally used it as a representative of *dharma*, the Sanscrit word of the same meaning—"law." When they employed it phoneti-

cally, as in this case, and in the syllabary of Sanghapala (Julien's *Méthode*, No. 274), it is the sound *kha*, or *kap*, which it represented. This symbol for "law" is an ideo-phonetic compound made up of the determinative 85 "water," and of the phonetic *kiuh* "to go away," which at the time of Gobharana was pronounced *k'op*, or the like. The missionaries, taking into account the value only of the phonetic, preferred, as we can easily appreciate, the symbol for "law" to that for "going away." This explanation permits us to recognise in *k'op-lan*, which we take to have been the true reading of the above name, as accurate a transcription as the clumsy orthoepy of the Chinese permitted of the name of Gobharana which has been preserved to us in the Tibetan version.

Returning to the symbols prefixed to proper names of missionaries, we may remark that in the list drawn by Bunyiu Nanjio, the Japanese pupil of Prof. Max Müller, in his valuable *Catalogue of the Chinese Translations of the Buddhist Tripitaka*, there are five of such prefixes which appear in 61 cases out of a list of 173 proper names. *Shih*, or better *Sak*, as it was pronounced in olden times, occurs 34 times, suggesting *Shākyā* the family name of Buddha Gautama. The other four are geographical. *Tuh*, vulgar *chu*, has been already mentioned for India. *Tchi* or *Ti*, which appears seven times from A.D. 147 to 373, is rightly supposed to suggest Yueh-ti, the Indo-Scythians of N.W. India. *An*, which occurs only four times from A.D. 148 to 281, is apparently for *An-sek* or *Arsak*, i.e., Parthia. All these have been identified in Bunyiu Nanjio's *Catalogue*. The fifth is *Khang*, which has been wrongly identified in the same work with Ulterior Tibet. It occurs five times from A.D. 187 to 396. The Japanese scholar has rightly stated that *Khang* is here for *Khang-kui*; but he is certainly wrong when he assimilates this name to *Khambu* or Ulterior Tibet, or to *Kambodja*, and therefore in stating in every case when the prefix occurs that the missionary named was of Tibetan descent. *Khang Kū* appears in the annals of the first Han dynasty as the name of the country of Samarcand; and *Khang* only remained for the same until the T'ang dynasty, whose annals contain a special statement to this effect. The name *Khang* was not employed in the geography of Tibet before the Yuen and Ming dynasties. Consequently, the appearance of this symbol in connexion with names of missionaries shows them to have been looked upon as originally from Samarcand, or at least from its region.

With reference to the opening statement of the present note, the name of *Arsak*, i.e., Parthia, which we know to have been so thoroughly grecised, is interesting because of the western spread it indicates; while that of *Khang*, i.e., the region of Samarcand, shows the extension to have been also northwards.

The name of the Gwet-ti, commonly Yueh-ti, calls for some remarks. Their coins, known as Indo-Scythian, show them to have been, in Mongol-like fashion, somewhat indifferent or eclectic in matters of religion, as they bear images and names of a variety of deities—Indian, Iranian, Zoroastrian, Greek, Semitic, &c. They were not, however, Mongoloid in race, as shown by their pink and white complexion described by the Chinese, and the large size of their noses figured on their coins, which find their like only among the "Stray Aryans in Tibet" (Dards) described and illustrated by Mr. R. B. Shaw in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* (1878, vol. xlvii., pp. 26). The image of Gautama Buddha upright and seated, with his name plainly written BOΔAO and BOΔAO, occurs only on some coins of Kanishka (A.D. 78) after their advance southwards and their coming into contact with the Graeco-Bactrians; and it does

not appear on any coin of a previous reign that we know of. His son and successor, Huvishka, is represented on several coins holding the prayer-cylinder, still so much in use in Tibet, which does not seem to have been known in India. It is a curious and instructive coincidence that the conversion of their main body to Buddhism should thus appear at the very moment when Greek influence became paramount among them. The coins of his predecessors are rude compared with those of Kanishka. The influence, obviously Greek, that they display is as yet faint; and their legends are bilingual, rude Greek on the obverse and Ariano-Pali on the reverse, while those of Kanishka are plain Greek on both sides, and the artistic finish of their design is most remarkable. The erection of many Buddhist towers and stupas now in ruins are attributed to the neophyte-like zeal of Kanishka throughout portions of Afghanistan and Cashmere. But it seems that a portion of the Yueh-ti had become Buddhist long before his time.

The matter is singularly confused and incomplete in the Chinese compilations from which the Europeans used to derive their information; hence the divergent statements found in the works of several scholars. The Yueh-ti have been wrongly assimilated to the Tokhari and to the polyandric Ye-ta or Ephtaliti, which are different races altogether. These confusions were set right in the first case by Prof. G. de Vasconcellos-Abreu (*Le Muséon*, 1883), and in the second by Mr. E. Specht (*Journal Asiatique*, 1883). The only means is to refer to the original sources, which are the dynastic annals, as was done partly by the last-named scholar. But the notices of the Yueh-ti therein are not complete by themselves, and some facts concerning them are reported under other entries. The information below has been carefully extracted by me from the notices about the Hiung-nu Wusun, Kephin, the biography of Tchang Kien, besides the notices concerning the Ta Yueh-ti, the Siao Yueh-ti, the Huang-tehung Yueh-ti, and the Yueh-ti-yen, from the She-ki, the records of the Former Han, After Han, and After Wei dynasties, and from the important evidence of numismatics.

The Yueh-ti (not Yue-chi), anciently Gwet-ti, after continuous wars raging from 201 B.C., were driven away from their settlements between the modern An-si and Si-ning on the north-west borders of China, by the Turks Hiung-nu in 165 B.C. They left behind them a certain number of weak and helpless people, who took refuge in the Nan-shan or southern range. They appear in the annals of the Former Han dynasty under the name of Siao or Lesser Yueh-ti, given to them by the Kiang or Tibetan tribes, and in the After Han annals under that of Yueh-ti of Hwang-tehung, such being the name of their habitat, which is the modern Si-ning in Kansuh, near the Tibetan frontier. They must be distinguished from the other Lesser Yueh-ti mentioned below.

The main body, known as the Great Yueh-ti, led by their elected queen, widow of the very king whose skull had just been made a drinking-cup by the Shen-vu of the Hiung-nu, made its way westwards to Ferghana, in the immediate vicinity of which they established their quarters.

About 143 B.C., their former neighbours, the Wusun a blue-eyed and fair-haired people, having associated themselves with the Hiung-nu, attacked them from the rear, and compelled them to flee still further. It was then that, under the command of Kitolo, they established their sway over the pacific Tabia, otherwise the Dahai of the Greeks, probably the descendants of those whom Sennacherib had vanquished in 697 B.C., and who had migrated into Bactria with the Tokhari, mentioned along

with them in the same cuneiform inscriptions. The Yueh-ti had still in 126 B.C., at the time of Tchang Kien's journey, their main settlement north of the Oxus; but their advance into Bactria had compelled the Sakas (Chinese *Shih*, anciently *Sak*) to move south, where they for a time ruled over Kopphen (Chinese *Kephin*), and broke up into several kingdoms. The Sakas on their coins, issued with legends exclusively Greek, are represented with extremely low foreheads; and their movement was coincident with, if not the cause of, the final advance of the Greeks, under Heliocles, south of the Indian Caucasus. The great king Maues, who advanced to the Bamiyan pass and to whom may be attributed the great Buddhist statues found there, was probably the Saka ruler at the time of Demetrius and Heliocles, if we may judge from the resemblance between some coins of Maues the named Saka king and some of those of Maues, and from the manifest connexion between those of Maues and those of the two aforesaid Greek kings.

Kitolo, advancing southwards, passed over the Hindu-Kush, conquered the five kingdoms of Kantolo (i.e., Gandhara, the Peshawar country), and ordered his son to hold as a fortified post the city of Fulousha (i.e., Peshawar, and not in Tartary as wrongly supposed). The party of Yueh-ti who remained with this son of Kitolo, somewhat apart from the others, were called the Lesser Yueh-ti.

The whole dominion of the Yueh-ti formed then five principalities, two of which had Kaofu or Cabul, and Poma or Bamiyan, as their capitals. One of these principalities was that of the Kut-shang (in modern Chinese Kweishuang) tribe. About 40 B.C. the chief of this tribe, K'iu-tsiu Kioh, the Kujula Kasasa or Kadphises of the Indo-Scythians coins, subjugated the four other principalities, established his sway over Bactria, Kabul, and Kopphen, and invaded Parthia. His tribal name became that of his kingdom. It appears on the coins as *Kushana* in the Ariano-Pali, *Korano* (or *Koshano*, according to the reading proposed by Dr. Stein), and also *Korano* in the Greek legends of the coins. These variants, coupled with the rendering *Kut-shang* in the limited Chinese orthoepy (which possesses no *r* and often renders it by *t*), might suggest an original appellation, such as **Korshan*, or the like, which, however, does not appear on the coins that we know of.

Kujula Kasasa, or Kadphises I., died at the age of eighty, and was succeeded by his son, Yem-Kao-tchin-tai, obviously the Himakapisa, Ooemo Kadphises of the coins. So that Kozola Kadaphes, or Kuyula Kaphsasa of the numismatists, does not appear in the Chinese records as successor to Kadphises I. Himakapisa conquered India, and established therein officers who ruled in the name of the Gwet-ti, or Yueh-ti. This statement is interesting, for the name Kushan, or the like, does not appear on the coins of this ruler. And may not, after all, this form Gwet-ti be simply a Chinese imitation of an original appellation which, imitated in turn in India, was supposed there to be a Sanscrit word and became the name *Gupta*?

Stray tribes of Yueh-ti are still mentioned by the Chinese authorities of the Suy dynasty (581-618) in the mountainous region between the Tsung-ling range and the N.E. of Tibet. Among them were the Yueh-ti-yen, who were thoroughly Buddhists. The Yueh-ti missionaries in China most probably did not come from the latter tribes. Their dates suggest that they must have come from the great body of their race, or perhaps from the Lesser Yueh-ti which had become Buddhist at the beginning. As recorded above, these were settled under the command of a son of Kitolo (circa 125-75 B.C.) for the keeping of the town of Fu-lou-sha (S.W. of Polo = Bolor—i.e., Chitral) or Pe-

shawar. The Chinese notice concerning them says that, in the eighth year Wu-t'ing of the After Wei dynasty (i.e., in 550), 842 years had elapsed since the erection of a Buddhist stupa existing at 10 *li* eastwards of this town, their capital. Therefore it had been built in 292 B.C. Its dimensions were 350 paces in circumference and 80 *tchang* (600 feet) in height. It was commonly called "the hundred-tchang Buddha." The date is most precise, and may prove a valuable addition to the history of Buddhism. With due allowance for Oriental exaggeration the monument was important enough for justifying the step taken by Kitoto for its protection and safeguard.

It seems not unlikely that the Yueh-ti were Aryans. The survival among the Aryan Dards of their curious physical type is highly suggestive; and the Ariano-Pali legends of those of their coins which are bilingual may be another argument in the same sense.

TERRIEN DE LACOUPERIE.

OBITUARY.

PROF. BALFOUR STEWART.

DR. BALFOUR STEWART, Professor of Physics in the Victoria University, died very suddenly on Sunday, December 21, at Ballymagawey, his property in Co. Meath, Ireland, whither he had gone from Manchester on the previous Friday to spend the Christmas holidays with his family. By his death science has received a severe blow. His name was well known as that of a worker, a thinker, and an author.

Balfour Stewart was born at Edinburgh in 1828. His uncle Dr. Clouston, the minister of Stanwick, was a well-known naturalist and meteorologist. Educated at the universities of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Stewart was, in February, 1855, on the recommendation of Prof. J. D. Forbes, nominated assistant to Mr. J. Welsh, the superintendent of Kew Observatory. This appointment he shortly afterwards resigned; but in 1859, on the death of Mr. Welsh, he was selected to succeed him, and held the office of superintendent until 1871. In 1867 he was appointed secretary of the Government Meteorological Committee, on the understanding that he should, with the concurrence of the Kew committee of the British Association, retain his office of superintendent of Kew Observatory. In the following year he personally superintended the erection of the instruments at the several stations of the Meteorological Office—Aberdeen, Armagh, Falmouth, Glasgow, Stonyhurst, and Valencia. At the close of the year 1869 Dr. Stewart resigned the secretaryship of the Meteorological committee, and the relations between the Kew committee and the Meteorological Office were consequently modified.

In 1870, on his appointment to the chair of Natural Philosophy in Owens College, Dr. Stewart left Richmond, where he had been living, to take up his residence in the neighbourhood of Manchester, but continued to act as superintendent of the Kew Observatory. It was in November of this year that, in one of his journeys between London and Manchester, he met with the railway accident which so nearly proved fatal to him. His thigh was dreadfully crushed, and it was nine months before he could be removed from Harrow, where the disaster occurred.

Dr. Stewart's earliest contribution to science was a paper on the laws observed in the mutual action of sulphuric acid and water; but his appointment to the Kew Observatory caused his attention to be more especially directed to meteorology, radiant heat, and terrestrial magnetism. The results of his researches in these subjects are contained in a long array of papers

which he contributed to the Royal and other learned societies. His papers on "Radiant Heat"—a subject with which his name is honourably connected—date from the year 1858, when he published a paper entitled "An Account of some Experiments on Radiant Heat, involving an Extension of Prevost's Theory of Exchanges." This was followed, in 1860, by papers on "The Radiating Powers of Bodies with regard to the Dark or Heat-producing Rays of the Spectrum" and on "Internal Radiation in Crystals." The results of these and subsequent researches were embodied in his *Elementary Treatise on Heat*, published by the Clarendon Press in 1866.

He was much interested in the phenomena of sun-spots and their connexion with the earth's magnetism. In 1866 the first set of results obtained from the photo-heliograph were published, at the expense of Dr. Warren de la Rue, under the title of *Researches on Solar Physics*, by Messrs. De la Rue, B. Stewart and B. Loewy. This was followed by papers on sun-spot areas, &c., published in the same manner in 1867 and 1868. The results of these researches were also communicated to the Royal Society.

Of recent years Dr. Stewart's attention had been turned to the difficult problem of terrestrial magnetism and its variations. One of his last papers read before the Physical Society of London (of which he was in his second year of office as president at the time of his death) investigated the causes of the solar diurnal variation of the earth's magnetism. In his latest remarks, addressed to the Physical Society on November 26 last, he made reference to this subject, and hinted at the probability that before long many of its obscure phenomena would receive an explanation. The article on "Terrestrial Magnetism" in the new edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* was contributed by him.

Dr. Stewart was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1862, an honour followed in 1868 by the award of the Rumford medal for the discovery of the law of the equality of the absorptive and radiative powers of bodies. He was president of Section A of the British Association in 1875 at the Bristol meeting. For two periods he acted as examiner in natural philosophy in the University of London, and he also examined for the University of Edinburgh and other examining boards.

When in Richmond, Dr. Stewart was churchwarden of St. John's Church, school manager, superintendent of the boy's Sunday-school, and generally an active coadjutor of the vicar, Canon J. D. Hales, in parish matters. He was interested, as is well-known, in psychical science, and was president, we believe from the first, of the Society for Psychical Research. The philosophic and speculative tone of his mind was well illustrated in the *Unseen Universe*, which he wrote in conjunction with Prof. P. G. Tait. This work, which appeared in 1874, excited a profound interest, and passed through many editions. In it the authors combated the view that science and religion are incompatible with each other, and contended, from a purely physical point of view, for the possibility of immortality and a personal God. As a writer of textbooks on physics, Dr. Balfour Stewart was very successful. Among these we may mention, in addition to his *Elementary Treatise on Heat*, *Lessons in Elementary Physics* (1871), *Physics* (1872), and *The Conservation of Energy* (1874). His style is characterised by simplicity of language, clearness of argument, and copiousness of illustration. Of his work on *Practical Physics*, written in conjunction with Mr. Haldane Gee, two volumes have already appeared—namely, those on "General Physical Processes" and on "Electricity and Magnetism." The third volume, on "Optics, Heat, and Sound," is in an advanced state of preparation.

At Manchester Prof. Balfour Stewart saw the establishment of the Victoria University, and took an active part in the arrangement of the academical curriculum. A. W. R.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CHÊDI ERA.

London: Dec. 28, 1887.

I wish to bring to Prof. Kielhorn's notice another inscription, which seems to me to offer a new and independent test for fixing the initial date of the Chêdi era, as it gives the name of the intercalary month *prathama Ashâdha* in the Samvat year 958. I take this date to be recorded in the Chêdi era, (1) because the characters of the inscription are not so old as Vikrama Samvat 958 or A.D. 901; and (2) because the stone was found within the limits of the Chêdi dominions, at Besâni, on the old road between Ajaygarh and Jabalpur. The date of s. 958 of the Chêdi era corresponds with A.D. 1207, in which year the month of Ashâdha was intercalary according to my reckoning. A short notice of the inscription will be found in my *Archæological Survey Reports*, vol. xx, p. 101.

A. CUNNINGHAM.

THE PHOENICIAN GOD MALAKHUM.

Preston, Salop: Dec. 27, 1887.

In reference to the interesting observations of Mr. Pinches on a bilingual list of Assyrian gods (*ACADEMY*, December 24), I cannot help thinking that the Phœnician god Malakhum is to be referred etymologically to the word *malakh* or *malakhu*, "a sailor," whether that word be of Sumerian or of Semitic origin. The Phœnician name of the god may refer especially to the "god of sailors" or of ships, in which the Phœnicians were known to excel. With this idea one may compare the Pataeci of the Phœnicians—i.e., the dwarf figures of gods placed at the prows of their vessels according to Herodotus, or at the prows, as Hesychius and Suidas state. The god Malakhum, as a naval deity, would certainly be very appropriate in the case of a nation that was once "very glorious in the midst of the seas."

W. HOUGHTON.

SCIENCE NOTES.

WE learn that Dr. Klein's *Histology* is now being translated into Italian. It has already been translated into French, German, and Spanish.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

THE forthcoming number of the *Babylonian and Oriental Record* (David Nutt) will contain the following articles: "From Chaldea to China: the Shifted Cardinal Points," by Prof. Terrien de Lacouperie; "The Indo-Scythian Deities," by Sir A. Cunningham; "Royal Egyptian Cylinder with Figures," by Mr. W. M. Flinders Petrie; "A Claim of Priority about Belshazzar," by Prof. E. and Dr. V. Revillout.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

THE SELDEN SOCIETY.—(Saturday, Dec. 17)

MR. JUSTICE WILLS in the chair.—The chairman, after expressing regret at the absence of Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, said that in the specimens of what they hoped to unearth from the records of the country, which were shortly coming out under the most competent editorship of Mr. Maitland, there were many things of real and substantial interest, not only to the lawyer, but to every

student of history. Few members of the profession were ever called upon in the course of their duties to consult the "Placita de Corona." He had had occasion to examine them more minutely than most members of the Bar; and he had found them to be full of most interesting matter, and to throw a remarkable light upon the early state of society and life in the United Kingdom. It would be found, for example, that boycotting was no invention of the nineteenth century. There had been discovered an amusing illustration of the practice put into operation against the Abbot of Lilleshall. The abbot complained that the bailiff of Shrewsbury had caused proclamation to be made in the town that none should be so bold as to sell to the abbot and his men any merchandise under penalty of 10s. One of the most remarkable discoveries which he had made on one occasion in the course of a very elaborate and prolonged examination of the "Placita," and which he established not only to his own satisfaction, but to that of the court, was that in our early history the sovereign sued exactly as the subject does now, and was subject in all respects to the same incidents; and that some of what are now considered to be royal prerogatives were interesting survivals of rights belonging to the sovereign and subject in common, which were subsequently taken away from the subject. The volume which was shortly to appear had been translated into excellent English by Mr. Maitland, and the Latin text and translation would appear side by side. They hoped before long, also, to engage in the work of preparing a glossary of ancient legal terms which would prove of great value to the profession. When at the Bar he had experienced the great want of such a work. The first attempts of the society would be in the direction of common law antiquities; but in the course of time he hoped that records of a no less interesting character with respect to equity principles and procedure would be brought to light. The results of such researches would prove of value and interest, not only to the legal practitioner, but to the historical student. —The secretary read a letter from Sir Henry Ponsonby stating that Her Majesty had much pleasure in becoming patron of the society, and enclosing a subscription for the society's publications; and a letter from the private secretary of the Prince of Wales regretting his Royal Highness's inability to attend the meeting and expressing his willingness to become a member of the society. The secretary also announced that local secretaries had been appointed in the chief towns of the United States, and that measures were being taken to make the society's work known in France and Germany. From January 29th to October 31st the receipts had been £138 12s.—Lord Justice Fry, in moving the adoption of the report of the last meeting, said that a sub-committee had been appointed to consider what were the best means of preparing a glossary of legal terms which should assist those who desired to study ancient documents. It was a work of great labour, and would be one of great interest. All students had great pleasure in referring to Professor Skeat's admirable dictionary and to the great German and French works of Grimm and Littré. He trusted that the committee would receive offers of assistance in the work proposed. Different authors would have to be studied with minute attention, and a distribution of the work would therefore be necessary, as the work to be satisfactory must contain references to the authors by whom the different words were used. He was glad to find that the society was extending its *clientèle* not only in this country, but in America.—Sir Richard Couch seconded the motion, which was carried.—Mr. Hyde Clarke moved the re-election of the ten retiring members of the council—viz., the United States Minister, Lord Salisbury, Lord Derby, the Bishop of Chester, Lord Aberdeen, Lord Herschell, Lord Thring, and Lords Justices Cotton, Lindley, and Bowen.—Mr. Griffith seconded the motion, which was agreed to. Mr. F. K. Muntion moved the reappointment of the executive committee, consisting of the Minister of the United States, Lords Justices Lindley and Bowen, Mr. Justice Stirling, and Mr. Justice Wills.—Mr. Montague Cookson seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.—Mr. Muntion urged his fellow members of the solicitors' branch of the legal profession to do all they could to further the objects of the society, from whom valuable assist-

ance might be expected. He had taken the opportunity of drawing the attention of solicitors to the society, and he hoped that as a body that profession would aid the work in which they were engaged.—Mr. Griffith, after remarking that the secretary's statement showed that if a second volume was to be issued further funds would be required, moved that the law officers of the Crown be memorialised to bring before Parliament the desirability of having all the Parliamentary rolls translated and edited. In that way the work of the society would become better known and appreciated.—Dr. Pauklurst, in seconding the motion, said that the people of this country were growing more and more anxious to know from the *origines* of our history in what hands at particular periods the effective force of society was vested. Upon such questions the Parliamentary rolls would throw abundant light. In America the same curiosity existed, and the deepest interest was felt in the early records of this country. Lincoln's-inn and the other inns might make contributions to the society in furtherance of this object. The question referred to by the chairman—how in early times the Crown engaged in litigation—was only one of the many interesting constitutional and legal questions which might be elucidated by a publication of the Parliamentary rolls.—Lord Justice Fry said that Mr. Griffith and Dr. Pankhurst had raised questions of great interest; but the society could not yet do more than its own proper work; and if they undertook to enlarge the scope of their operations, they might find themselves overwhelmed. The work suggested would require large funds. He would suggest that the resolution should be slightly changed, and that the form of the resolution should be that the executive committee should be desired to consider the best means of approaching the government with a view to the publication of the Parliamentary rolls.—Mr. Stuart Moore, speaking from a long experience of the Treasury in connexion with the Record Office, said that the Record Commission had already lost so much money that the very name stunk in the nostrils of the Treasury. Though, therefore, it was desirable to keep pegging away at the Treasury, if any good was to be done it was absolutely necessary to formulate precisely what was wanted. They must proceed step by step, as to do at once what was required might easily cost £20,000.—The amended resolution was then agreed to.

FINE ART.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EGYPT EXPLORATION FUND.

THE fifth annual general meeting of the Egypt Exploration Fund was held on Thursday, December 22, in the large room of the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, Reginald Stuart Poole, Esq., LL.D., vice-president, in the chair. There were present Sir Charles T. Newton, K.C.B., vice-president of the Fund; Miss Amelia B. Edwards, LL.D., hon. secretary; Hellier Gosselin, Esq., secretary; General Sir Charles Wilson, K.C.B.; Sir John Fowler, K.C.M.G.; Henry White, Esq., First Secretary of the American Legation; T. H. Bayliss, Esq., Q.C.; Prof. Percy Gardner, Litt. D.; A. S. Murray, Esq., Keeper of the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum; H. Grueber, Esq., of the British Museum; M. Naville; R. N. Cust, Esq., LL.D.; Prof. Hayter Lewis; J. S. Cotton, Esq.; &c. The following, who were unable to be present, sent letters and messages expressing regret at their unavoidable absence:—His Excellency the American Minister; the Lord Wynford; the Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor, Trustee of the British Museum; E. A. Bond, Esq., C.B., Principal Librarian of the British Museum; Sir W. H. Gregory, K.C.M.G.; the Rev. Canon Liddon, and Herman Weber, Esq., M.D.

The proceedings were opened by the chairman, who announced various changes in the committee, the Rev. Canon Liddon, and Mr. Meggs (U.S.A.) being among the new

members. Mr. Gilbertson, the able and much valued hon. treasurer of the Fund, having retired in consequence of ill-health, Mr. Henry Grueber had kindly consented to become his successor; and M. Carl Hentsch, of Geneva, had been elected a vice-president. The chairman next referred to the important services rendered to the Fund by Mr. Bayliss, who had advised the incorporation of the Fund, and had, with infinite pains, prepared and superintended the drawing-up of the necessary articles of association, now nearly ready for signature. He then stated the order of business to be followed, and divided the work of the meeting under three heads: (1) the reading of the reports of the hon. treasurer and hon. secretary; (2) votes of donations of antiquities to various museums; (3) election of a president and various officers.

Mr. Grueber, hon. treasurer, then read his financial report for the year 1886-7, and submitted the balance-sheet of the Fund. Mr. Grueber stated that, thanks to the great exertions of the hon. secretary, of Mr. R. S. Poole, and of Dr. Winslow of Boston, hon. vice-president and hon. treasurer for the United States, the position and resources of the society were in a satisfactory state. The total expenditure for the year 1886-7 had been £1,510 6s. 10d. The particulars were as follows:—(1) Excavations on the sites of Bubastis and the city of Onias, £551 2s. 6d.; (2) publications, including part of the account for *Tanis I.*, and the whole account for *Naukratis I.*, £495 14s.; (3) balance of Student Fund paid to Mr. Griffith, £221 12s. 7d.; (4) package, carriage, and repairs of antiquities, £70; (5) rent of office, secretary's honorarium, printing, stationery, postage, &c., £171 17s. 9d. The total receipts for the corresponding period were £1,718 13s. 11d., the chief items being as follows:—Subscriptions, £1,594 4s.; (2) sale of publications—*i.e.*, *Pithom*, *Tanis I.*, *Naukratis I.*, &c., £110 4s. 6d.; other sources, £14 5s. 5d. As compared with the financial report of last year (1885-6) the results were as follows:—In 1885-6 the gross expenditure was £1,786 11s. 2d., as against £1,510 16s. 10d. for 1886-7; and the receipts for 1885-6 were £2,160 5s. 2d. as against £1,718 13s. 11d. for 1886-7. As regards the American subscriptions, £600 was received in 1885-6; whereas the amount received in 1886-7 (including Miss C. Wolfe's donation of £200 and £50 from the University of Chautauqua) came to £860. In the receipts from sale of publications there was an advance of £36 16s. 4d. upon last year's revenue from the same source. A comparison of the cash-balance for 1885-6 and 1886-7 shows for the former year the sum of £1,880 6s. 6d., and for the present year £2,310 16s. 2d. The available balance at the bank, as declared on November 30, 1887, was £2,124 8s. 1d.; and upon this balance the budget of the society must therefore be framed for excavations, publications, &c., for the coming year, 1887-8. Forecasting these expenses, according to custom, it was proposed to devote the sum of £740 to the completion of the excavation of Bubastis under the direction of M. Naville; and a further sum of £200 to Mr. Griffith for the purpose of exploring and conducting a separate excavation in the Delta. As regards publications, *Tanis II.* and *Naukratis II.* will cost £350, *The City of Onias* £150, and the reprint of *Pithom* (third edition) £80. For the last-named work orders have already been received to nearly double the amount of the estimated cost of printing and publishing.

At the close of the hon. treasurer's report, the chairman observed that it was impossible to forecast the expense attendant on the removal of large objects from Bubastis, of which many were certain to be found; and

that such expense might amount to £400. If, therefore, the subscribers desired to secure fine sculptures for the British Museum, for the Museum of Fine Arts, at Boston, and for our provincial collections, they must give larger support, and endeavour to extend the subscription list by all means in their power.

Miss Amelia B. Edwards, hon. secretary, then read her report, which, as on former occasions, divided itself into two parts—retrospect and prophecy; the former dealing with the work of the past season, and the latter with the plans of the society for the season about to begin. Her present task was, however, much lightened, since M. Naville was himself to lecture upon his own discoveries the following evening. Touching briefly on the finding of the cemeteries of the city of Onias and the unburying of the majestic ruins of the great Temple of Bubastis, Miss Edwards went on to say that not more than one-third part of this magnificent structure had as yet been uncovered, and that two more months would, it was calculated, complete the excavation. The operations would be resumed in February. In the meanwhile, Mr. Griffith, their young and promising student, had already started, and was by this time in Egypt, where he proposed to make an archaeological survey of the coast-line of the Delta, and would conduct an excavation at some place of interest; after which he would probably join forces with M. Naville at Bubastis. The society had also retained the services of Count d'Hulst, than whom the Egypt Exploration Fund possessed no more able and devoted officer. It was to Count d'Hulst that had been entrusted the onerous and ungrateful task of superintending the removal of the colossal objects discovered at Tell Nebesheh in 1885, by Mr. Petrie and Mr. Griffith; and he had carried the work successfully through in the teeth of great difficulties, and at an uncounted cost of personal fatigue, privation, and suffering. Turning to home news, Miss Edwards was rejoiced to be able to report that the cause of the Egypt Exploration Fund was becoming more widely known and more warmly appreciated throughout the kingdom. The staff of provincial local hon. secretaries was rapidly increasing, each local hon. secretary representing the centre of a district; and it was much to be desired that a similar staff of voluntary workers should be established in London and its neighbourhood. Miss Edwards said she would fain see a local hon. secretary in every metropolitan postal district, and concluded with an appeal to those present for further co-operation in a noble work which was its own "exceeding great reward."

The business of voting donations of antiquities was next taken in order, and the chairman called upon Sir John Fowler to propose the donation to the British Museum.

Sir John Fowler said it was fitting that he should give some description of the objects about to be presented to our great national collection, and state their value and importance. These objects—not counting numerous small antiquities—were (1) the sculptured throne of a colossal statue of Useresen III., of the XIIth dynasty, in red granite, giving the earliest known example of the mythical group of the two Niles, which belongs to a style and school not as yet adequately represented in the British Museum; (2) a fine colossal sarcophagus in grey granite belonging to a priest and high functionary of the city of Am, apparently of the XXVth Dynasty, which as a piece of sculpture is executed in the highest style of the Saite period of art, and bears a very remarkable religious inscription. Also (3) some thirty Greek painted and inscribed vases from Naukratis, dating from about 600 B.C. to 650 B.C.;

and (4) a limestone archaic statuette of Apollo as the hunter-god, from Naukratis, bearing a Greek inscription down the leg—very curious and interesting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Bayliss, Q.C., who pointed out, as the radical difference between this society and other societies, that the Egypt Exploration Fund was a body, not of recipients, but donors; and that they unearthed priceless objects in no spirit of acquisitiveness, but in order to give them away.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Sir Charles T. Newton, in returning thanks on behalf of the Trustees of the British Museum, regretted the enforced absence, through indisposition, of Mr. Bond, the principal librarian, and added that the unanimity of the vote just passed had given him particular pleasure, because it showed that the public understood that in furthering the work of the Fund they were making a good investment for the national collection. He was, however, persuaded that, notwithstanding "bad times," the British public might give much more substantial support than it has hitherto given.

General Sir Charles Wilson, who found himself unexpectedly called upon to second Sir Charles Newton, spoke of the British Museum as the pride and glory of the land, and hoped that the Egypt Exploration Fund would carry on its work with unabated vigour till the Delta was thoroughly explored.

Mr. Alexander S. Murray, Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum, returned thanks for his department, and said that the Museum was well content with the liberality of the Fund. He referred to the interest of the painted vases of Naukratis, to their surprising beauty of execution and the boldness of the designs. This society was also bold in its designs, and the British Museum rejoiced to owe to the labours of the Egypt Exploration Fund the recovery of our lost knowledge of Egypt's relation to Greece and Rome.

The donation of antiquities to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, U.S.A., was moved by Miss Amelia B. Edwards, who pointed out that the American subscription was this year equal in amount to the sum subscribed on the English side of the ledger; and that the Fund could not do too much to prove itself worthy of that large support. It was not merely for support in a pecuniary sense that the Fund had reason to be grateful; but also for the trust which their American subscribers reposed in them in the matter of distributions, and for their personal sympathy. Miss Edwards then said how much her own labours had been lightened by the cordiality of her American correspondents, and how much she felt she owed to the moral support of their indefatigable and estimable American vice-president, Dr. Winslow, of Boston. Nor was this all. The Fund had unknown friends as sympathetic as the known. An anonymous donor, who gave twenty-five dollars two years ago "In Memoriam, C. G. G.," had continued that subscription ever since. The identity of this anonymous sympathiser (a lady) had but quite recently been discovered; and Miss Edwards would respect her desire to remain unknown, merely adding that her sympathy is two-fold, and that she annually gives as much to the fund under her name as she gives un-named to the memory of our hero who fell at Khartum. Miss Edwards then proposed that, in addition to minor objects, the following works of sculpture should be presented to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, U.S.A.: (1.) A seated statue, of heroic size, of Rameses II., in black granite, found at Tell Nebesheh (the site of the city of Am), in 1885; (2.) A headless black granite sphinx, of the Hyksos period, formerly inscribed on the chest with the

ovals of a Hyksos king, and re-engraved with the ovals of Rameses II., being also inscribed with the names of various other kings, including that of Setnekht. This sphinx was likewise found at Tell Nebesheh. (3.) A squatting statue in black granite of the style of the XIIIth Dynasty, reworked about the head, and inscribed with names and titles of Prince Mentuherkhepeshef, "General of Cavalry of his father," King Rameses II. This very interesting piece was found during the present year at Bubastis. (4.) A selection of Greek vases from Naukratis.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. S. Cotton, who said that he performed this office with especial sympathy, because of his intimate knowledge of the intelligent treatment of learned subjects by various American newspapers. He would, however, name only three: *The Nation* of New York, *The Literary World* of Boston, and *The Critic* of New York. The two former had been uniformly friendly to the work of the Egypt Exploration Fund; and the latter, which had formerly erred in following a false light, had happily been brought back to the true faith by Dr. Winslow. Mr. Cotton then referred to the American journals of archaeology and philology, which he defined as being of a higher order of merit than any publications bearing similar titles in this country. The American School at Athens had preceded our own; and the work of the American Archaeological Society, and of the American explorers along the coast of the Mediterranean, were in every sense an honour to the United States.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Henry White, First Secretary to the American Legation, regretted the absence of his chief, the American Minister, and that of his former chief, Mr. James Russell Lowell, vice-president of the Fund; but it gave him pleasure to return thanks on the part of his country on the present occasion. He congratulated the society upon its successes. The fund not only solved important problems of ancient history, but it also formed a link between the two great English-speaking nations of the world.

Mr. William Fowler then moved the third resolution: "That a selection of Egyptian and other antiquities made by the Committee be presented to the Museum of Sydney, N.S.W.; the University of Chautauqua, in the State of New York, U.S.A.; the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; and other museums." Mr. Fowler dwelt in terms of warm appreciation upon the generosity of the American subscribers to the fund, which shamed the English body, for if they had been so liberal, we evidently had not given as freely as we ought to have given. He went on to say that there was no diminution in the interest of the work done by the fund, which interest was fed not only by the finding of new objects, but by its connexion with the great subjects of religious thought and history.

The Rev. W. MacGregor, local hon. secretary for Tamworth, seconded the resolution, and briefly referred to his own approaching visit to Egypt, where he hoped to assist M. Naville as an amateur photographer at Bubastis.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. R. N. Cust, hon. secretary of the Royal Asiatic Society, seconded the resolution. Contrasting the Egypt Exploration Fund with other societies, he remarked that in the present case subscriptions were really investments; whereas, when a subscription was paid to any other society, the payee, as a rule, saw the last of his money. In giving to the Egypt Exploration Fund one was, however, sure to see the money return in another and an improved form. He knew Egypt well, and felt that he could not speak too highly of the work of this society.

The Chairman then moved that the Act of Incorporation of the Society be authorised by the meeting; and added that the Act would require to be passed by a special general meeting.

Being called upon to give some particulars, Mr. Bayliss, Q.C., explained that the Companies Acts authorised the registration of such societies as this without the addition of the word "limited"; and that the Board of Trade had practically passed their scheme, which would, probably, be sanctioned in about three months.

The Chairman next proposed that Sir John Fowler, K.C.M.G., be elected president of the Egypt Exploration Fund, and that Miss Amelia B. Edwards, hon. secretary, and Mr. C. Hentsch, of Geneva be elected vice-presidents. He also read over the names of the retiring members of the committee, and those of the new members recently elected. Referring to Sir John Fowler, he said that the necessary qualifications of a president of the Egypt Exploration Fund were three in number. He must be eminent in either literature or science; he must know Egypt; and he must be a friend to the Fund. Sir John Fowler possessed all these qualifications. He was eminent as a man of science; he was familiar with the land of the Pharaohs; and he had been a liberal friend to the society. To find a successor to the late Sir Erasmus Wilson was no easy task, and Sir John Fowler's modest opinion of his own merits had added to the difficulty; but, happily, his objections to election had not been allowed to prevail.

The motion was seconded by Miss Amelia B. Edwards, who protested against being called upon to speak to a motion which included an honour to herself. She was very grateful to her learned colleagues for desiring to promote her, but she continued nevertheless to be the hon. secretary and servant of the society. Miss Edwards then referred in feeling terms to the late Sir Erasmus Wilson, and owned that she had long been reluctant to see another in occupation of his empty chair. But the time had come when it was impossible to leave that chair vacant; and she could only say that there was no one whom she would so gladly see occupying, or who would occupy it so adequately, as her eminent friend, Sir John Fowler.

Sir John Fowler was then elected unanimously, and, taking the chair vacated by Mr. Reginald Stuart Poole, delivered his presidential address.

Referring to the circumstances of his acceptance of the honour now conferred by the society, he said that he had at first declined it on what he believed to be unanswerable grounds; but that to his humiliation, he found that his letter—which he fondly conceived to be a very good letter, and entirely conclusive—produced no impression upon the committee, who informed him that his objections were illusory, and that he perfectly fulfilled the theoretical requirements of a president. It was quite true that he had been a donor to the fund, and it was equally true that he knew Egypt well. Twenty years ago he went to Egypt as an engineer, and was shown over the Suez Canal by M. de Lesseps one year before its completion. One year later, he had the honour of accompanying their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales upon their trip up the Nile, upon which occasion the party was personally conducted by the late Mariette Pasha, who spoke to him (Sir J. Fowler) on the obscure subject of the great gaps which divide certain groups of Egyptian dynasties, and expressed his belief that in process of time discoveries would be made which should bridge those gaps. This bold prophecy was already in course of fulfilment, thanks in part to the work of the Egypt

Exploration Fund. He then reminded his hearers that the remaining obelisk now standing in front of the pylons of the Great Temple of Luxor is the property of the British nation; and he related how H.R.H. the Prince of Wales went with him one morning to view the obelisk and consider the question of transport. But while there his Royal Highness, with characteristic good taste, recognised that this noble monument was most fitly seen in the place for which it was made, and decided to leave it where it is, and where it will be admired by travellers for ages to come. Very different was the case of the Alexandrian obelisk, which lay half buried in the sand, and which, had it been left there much longer, would surely have been doomed to destruction. Sir Erasmus Wilson removed and saved it, and to him we owe its presence on the Thames Embankment. Sir John Fowler then went on to say that the work of the Egypt Exploration Fund had been one stream of success from the first year of its establishment to the present day. The discovery of Pithom by M. Naville; the discovery of Naukratis by Mr. Petrie; the discoveries of Mr. Petrie at Tell Nebesheh and Tell Defenneh; and the brilliant work done by Mr. Griffith and Mr. Ernest Gardner were known to all. The discoveries of the past season were more than equal to those of preceding campaigns, and the completion of the excavation of the Great Temple of Bubastis promised magnificent results in the season about to begin.

The proceedings terminated with votes of thanks to the president, to Mr. Reginald Stuart Poole, and to the Society of Arts for the use of their rooms.

[M. Naville's lecture on "Bubastis and the City of Onias," delivered in the same place on the following evening, will be given in next week's ACADEMY.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

ROMAN INSCRIBED AND SCULPTURED STONES.

South Shields: Dec. 18, 1887.

Mr. Clayton has recently made some alterations in the farm buildings at Caervoran, and during the operations a Roman inscribed stone and fragments of two others were found in the walls. The former is a centurial stone of abnormal length—3 ft. 6 in.—with the inscription

➤ FELICIS
P NXP

in an ansated sunk panel 10 in. long in the centre of the stone.

In addition to the handsome gift, by Sir Edward W. Blackett, of the Roman inscriptions, &c., to the museum of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries, referred to in my letter in the ACADEMY of December 10, the two large altars to the god Antenociticus (each about 4 ft. 6 in. high), which have stood, since their discovery, in the *sacellum* at Benwell *per lineam valli*, so well known to tourists along the wall, have, owing to their being damaged by exposure to the weather, been kindly presented by the owner, Mr. Rendel, to the Blackgate Museum. Cement casts will take their place at Benwell.

ROBT. BLAIR.

THE WALLS OF CHESTER.

Liverpool: December 21, 1887.

I much wish that the walls of Chester, at the points recently laid open on the north face, agreed with the description given by Mr. Blair from M. de Caumont's *Abécédaire d'Archéologie*, though even then they would be distinct from the walls of a Roman castrum.

It is not for a moment denied that very

massive buildings, such as aqueducts, &c., were made of vast stones close jointed and without mortar. But the walls of a castrum were different; and in this particular instance at Chester, though *externally* the large stones are in places as close fitting as Mr. Blair states, the interior of the wall is composed of these large stones loosely put together, much resembling a field wall on a large scale. A visit to the excavations on December 19 revealed the fact that the same construction is met with in the later operations as in the former. There was, when first laid bare, no *internal* face to the wall, the stones of which projected in a most irregular manner; and it seems evident that, if the bank of earth had not been raised against it on this side, the wall would long ago have fallen to pieces.

A number of inscriptions have been found in the more recent excavations, but as yet have not been allowed by the authorities to see the light.

W. THOMPSON WATKIN.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

MR. A. H. SMITH, acting as deputy professor for Sir Charles Newton, will deliver a course of six lectures at University College, London, next term on "Greek and Roman Engraved Gems." The first lecture of the course—on "The Gems of the Greek Islands, and the Civilisation of Mycenae"—to be given on Friday, January 13, at 4 p.m.—will be open to the public without payment or ticket.

MR. CHARLES GREEN has made a great deal of progress with his drawing of Mr. Turveydrop's Academy, which cannot fail to be his principal contribution to the Spring Exhibition of the Institute. The institution in question was situated—Dickens informs us—in Newman Street, and the large dancing-room was built over stables at the back of the house. The room itself, dating probably from the end of the last century, was still decorated when Mr. Turveydrop's pupils—or rather, Mr. Turveydrop's son's pupils—assembled in it with the lyres which had formed a part of the original scheme. Happy possessors of the first edition of *Bleak House* will recollect Mr. Hablot Browne's treatment of the dancing class. Everything that Mr. Browne did was clever, and the design of the dancing class is no exception to the rule. Still, from the point of view of subject, "Phiz" made the mistake of making the pupils too young—in his drawing they are quite little children—and from the point of view of accuracy, he neglected to permit us to trace in the features of the elder Mr. Turveydrop that resemblance to George IV. on which the elder Mr. Turveydrop prided himself. Mr. Charles Green has a bevy of graceful damsels, in the costume of the decade between 1830 and 1840—which must be the period of the story; and, with his back to the mantelpiece, surveying the scene with pompous self-satisfaction, he has a Mr. Turveydrop whose exterior recalls that of Mr. Turveydrop's late lamented sovereign. The younger Mr. Turveydrop has the dwarf violin with which the dancing master of the day used to be provided. The drawing will have the complete finish—it has already the quiet humour—characteristic of Mr. Green.

DURING the past year Mr. William Muir has produced for his subscribers, through Mr. Quaritch, fifty copies each of Blake's *America* and *Europe* during the past year; and he hopes to issue his *Urizen*, *Song of Los*, and *Gates of Paradise* in 1888.

THE STAGE.

MR. WILSON BARRETT'S RETURN.

THOUGH the production of the "Golden Ladder" at the Globe last week may not have played any conspicuous part in making more intimate the union some of us desire between the stage and high literature, it has certainly served the purpose of bringing back to us a leading actor and actress in characters extremely suited to them—it has re-introduced us to a company excellently organised and complete for the purposes for which it was brought together. When an actor so popular as Mr. Barrett re-appears after so long an absence, the precise nature of the play is not quite so important a matter as it is upon occasions which are in themselves less interesting. The public wanted to see Mr. Wilson Barrett, Miss Eastlake, Mr. George Barrett, and the rest of the troop again; and so long as there was afforded due opportunity for the display of their art, the literary merit of the piece in which they appeared was rather a secondary consideration. Mr. Wilson Barrett has made his reputation both by acting in melodrama and by acting in high poetic plays; and if for the moment he has elected to appeal to us in a part which recalls the "Silver King" rather than in a part which recalls or vies with Hamlet—Macbeth and Coriolanus, by the bye, are surely within his range, and should some day be attempted—we may rely on his not long forgetting the due development of the more strictly intellectual and poetic side of his art. Indeed, I am delighted to be told that a revival of "Hamlet" itself—at *matinées* once or twice a week—is to be undertaken somewhat soon. The return of Mr. Barrett, then, means not simply the return of the successful interpreter of more or less sensational and domestic drama, it means the re-establishment, by a highly intellectual actor, of a place of entertainment and instruction, to which even the most fastidious playgoers must enjoy to resort. This is a time at which Mr. Barrett's services in the past—his services to the stage and his personal achievements in his art—have especial need to be remembered. He has a very large and influential public to welcome him with cordiality. Lovers of thoroughness and completeness in theatrical work are glad to see him back.

The actor himself has had a hand in the composition of the new play. The secrets of collaboration—whether they be of Beaumont and Fletcher, of Meilhac and Halévy, of M. Erckmann and M. Chatrian, of Mr. Besant and Mr. Rice—are not to be too curiously enquired into; but doubtless it is the practical stage experience of Mr. Barrett, the sense of construction which that develops, and his unsurpassed knowledge of what an audience will respond to, here, and in America, and in the North, that have given value to his collaboration with a writer not only so facile, but so observant as Mr. Sims. The two workers have produced together what is more or less of a melodrama. But of melodramas or so-called sensational pieces there are at least two kinds: the kind that relies for its success wholly upon the dexterous re-arrangement of ancient material, the continued presentation of the hair-breadth 'scapes and moving incidents by flood and field; and the kind that,

while claiming a generous allowance of these things, makes provision also of fresh character, and fresh experience, and sets forth the story in a dialogue from which verve and humour are not banished. It is to this latter kind that the "Golden Ladder" belongs. It is a good instance of this latter kind. It is surely a fresh thing on the stage, though it is not a fresh thing in a novel, to make a liberal clergyman the hero of the story. Then, in the characters of Severn, Peranza, and Jim Dixon, there are separate studies of villainy—of which Peranza, a Greek adventurer (the least pronounced) is the most successful. Then, again, cockney humour and cockney generosity of thought and deed are studied afresh in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. Peckaby, the suburban pastrycooks—Mr. Sims, of course, being rather of Dickens's opinion than of Mr. Gilbert's as to the relative amounts of virtue claimed as a birth-right in—so to put it—Grosvenor Square and the Dials. Matching the realism of several among the character-sketches is the realism of the scenery. Hampstead Heath on a winter's night—a part of it which was illustrated more than once by the brush of Constable—is here newly studied by an excellent scene-painter, Mr. Hann. And Millbank is presented with a fidelity to which Major Griffiths—its historian—would, I fancy, not decline to bear witness. Much, then, has been done intelligently for the success of a piece constructed mainly, it is true, upon familiar lines.

It is a distinct merit of the "Golden Ladder"—as regards its performance at the Globe Theatre—that it offers to the leading actor, the leading actress, and the most sympathetic comedian of the company, parts which bring out admirably all of the qualities these artists can display in a piece of the kind. Mr. Wilson Barrett's light was rather hidden in "Clito"; Miss Eastlake's rather hidden in "Claudian." Here the talent of neither is in any degree eclipsed. Mr. Barrett's clergyman is a being we should all of us accept. Whether he vows allegiance to the nine-and-thirty articles; or whether he talks of the church as "she," and is a stickler for ritual; or whether he holds that modern Christianity consists in providing Whitechapel with classical music, nobody greatly cares, because, in any case, he is a manly fellow, a friend, and a patriot. The different phases of his character—the priest as a lover, the priest as an Englishman, the priest as the succourer of *soi-disant* suburban workmen, the priest as husband of a woman wrongly accused of crime of violence—Mr. Barrett exhibits with equal naturalness and force. He does a very great deal (both as to look and bearing) as well as it is possible to do it—better than it is wont to be done; and that includes what one cannot but feel to be the most difficult thing of all—the reading of the letter from Frank Thornhill's imprisoned wife. In real life nobody would have to read such a letter aloud: nobody could do it. Life—even the most unfortunate and adventurous—sometimes spares people the difficulty which the exacting stage insists on their surmounting.

Miss Eastlake's love scene is full of natural touches, such as instinct suggests to rightly endowed womanhood. They have their

charm—and she looks admirably; but the actress is to be praised the most for her performance of the scene behind the prison bars. The imagination must be a potent one which deals successfully, and not conventionally, with this situation. Visits to Millbank, under special protection, may afford hints, but cannot accomplish the work. To Miss Eastlake's art belongs the credit of conducting such a scene with truth and a pathos which moves. Mr. George Barrett's Peckaby—the sunshiny tradesman with a speciality in "cough drops" and a general reputation upon Hampstead Heath on a Bank Holiday—makes the brightness of the play—gives it the relief it requires—and is an excellent foil to the various and pertinacious villainies which Mr. Austin Melford, Mr. Cooper Cliffe, and Mr. Charles Hudson (the Tetrarch who, they thought in America, resembled Mr. Irving) perpetrated with so much of energy, so much of artistic goodwill. And the quite minor parts are played with ability—not with genius that would be wasted, but with the capacity which the oversight of a manager like Mr. Wilson Barrett has always (let it be said to his credit) perceived to be necessary. The piece lacks nothing that adequate interpretation could bestow upon it.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

MUSIC.

TWO MUSIC COMPOSERS.

Early Letters of Robert Schumann. Translated by May Herbert. (Bell.) These letters, originally published by his wife, commence with the school days at Zwickau, the composer's nativestown, when he was learning Homer and Sophocles. The letters to his mother are particularly attractive. His love, respect, and veneration for her are reflected in every line. The one on a "Mother's Love" is a little poem. The dull life and dark end of Schumann come strangely to one's mind on reading the lines in which he speaks of the debt which he owes his mother for preparing for him "a bright, cloudless future." The letters from Heidelberg, Switzerland, and Italy contain many graphic descriptions of persons and things; and sage, and, at times, melancholy remarks, which one would hardly expect from a boy still in his teens. In a long letter to Wieck, written at Heidelberg in 1829, we see how soon in life he became an ardent admirer of Schubert—"my only Schubert." "Which way to choose" was a difficult problem for him to solve at the age of twenty. With confidence, not conceit, he says: "My genius points towards art." Again, in another place, he writes: "If I were to stick to law, and become a clerk, I should shoot myself for weariness." Of special interest to the musical reader are the letters in which Schumann mentions his own compositions. With reference to an unfavourable criticism of his *Intermezzo* by Rellstab, he remarks: "Opposition only strengthens one." He was right; but if a man happen to be foolish, opposition may only strengthen his folly. It is the strong man who profits by antagonism. The last part of the book contains extracts from letters to Clara Wieck, from 1837 to 1840, the year of their marriage. It is scarcely necessary to add that they are deeply interesting. We will close this brief notice by two short quotations: the one concerns the man, the other the artist. He says, speaking of Jean Paul's "Flegeljahre": "When you come to this passage: 'I say, Walt, I am sure I love you better than you love me.' 'No,

screamed Walt, I love you best,' then think of me."

And again:

"Don't be afraid, my dear Clara, you shall live to see my compositions come into notice, and be much talked about."

The translator deserves high praise for the clear and easy manner in which she has discharged her task.

Johannes Brahms. By Dr. Hermann Deiters. (Fisher Unwin.) The author of this book claims a thirty-one years' acquaintance with Brahms, and may, therefore, be naturally expected to write something worth reading. And we find, indeed, that he has thoroughly studied the composer's works; and, while entertaining the highest opinion of Brahms, never allows his enthusiasm to interfere with his judgment. He perceives in the master's early period a "lavish expenditure of strength," and later on intellect seems to him sometimes to outweigh imagination. He discovers even in the third Quartette "certain affectations of obscurity." Then, again, he prudently remembers that he is dealing with a composer whose race is not yet run; so he adopts the tone of an advocate rather than of a judge. The biographical part of the work is extremely short, for the simple reason that Brahms' life has been altogether uneventful. Dr. Deiters naturally commences the artistic career of Brahms by giving Schumann's famous "New Paths" article, which appeared in the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* in 1856, hailing the young composer as "one of the elect." He explains the profound impression made upon Schumann by the fact that Brahms was, from the first, no mere imitator but a distinct individuality. The pause in Brahms' artistic career after his Op. 10 in 1856 is remarkable. His next work, the Piano-forte Concerto in D minor, was not produced till 1859. It was a time of study and meditation. The two Serenades for orchestra (Op. 11 and 16) are justly described as neglected. We wonder that Mr. Henschel has not revived them. Dr. Deiters speaks of Brahms' peculiarity in grouping variations, and giving them a closer relationship. This he certainly did, but Beethoven was the pioneer. With reference to the German Requiem, which he rightly describes as Brahms' grandest effort, our author says: "The composer alone can say if the impulse was due to personal experiences." We cannot name our authority, but we have always understood that the work was written while Brahms was mourning his mother's death. Dr. Deiters is very enthusiastic about Brahms' songs, which are indeed the finest since Schumann. He reminds us how much Brahms recalls Schubert in charm of melody, Schumann in truth of detail, and Franz in neatness of elaboration, but adds that he is still "independent and original." A true remark, and well expressed. The book has been well translated by Rosa Newmarch, with the exception of a somewhat confused sentence on p. 25. The German appeared in 1880, so the lady has added a chapter giving a brief account of Brahms' latest works. She speaks of the Fourth Symphony as first performed at Meiningen under the direction of Dr. Bülow and Brahms himself. We cannot understand how both can have directed the first performance. Again, concerning the recently published Sonata for pianoforte and violoncello (Op. 99), she says: "That a work in F major should have its slow movement in F sharp, is, we believe, without parallel in music." We would remind the lady of Schubert's Fantasia in C (Op. 15), the slow movement of which is in C sharp minor. At the end of the volume is a complete catalogue of Brahms' works.

J. S. SHEDLOCK.

NOTES OF FRANZ LISZT IN YOUTH.

EXTRACTED FROM A CONTEMPORARY JOURNAL.

(Written November, 1832, to March, 1833.)

Hotel Westminster, Rue de la Paix, Paris.

"November 14.—We had the pleasure of hearing Liszt, the celebrated pianiste, perform in a private room. We were as much astonished as delighted with his playing, which differs from anything we ever heard. He appears an extraordinary being, and full of talent, independent of his musical genius. He has fine features and a most expressive and constantly varying countenance; but looks delicate, as if his mind were too powerful for his frame. When at the pianoforte, he seems completely abstracted from this world and its concerns, and transported to an ideal world of his own. His memory or imagination appears to supply him with some tale of interest or romance, which he clothes in a musical garb; and doubtless music speaks as clearly and intelligibly to his mind as painting or poetry does to that of others; indeed, before hearing him, I had not imagined that anything but the human voice could so express deep feeling.

"November 17.—We went to meet Liszt a second time, and found him extremely complaisant and accessible. He played from memory Weber's 'Invitation à la Valse,' which he called 'un des mes chevaux de bataille.' He supposed it to have been composed under the influence of jealousy; and no language could better have described sudden transitions of feeling, from anger to despair and gloom, with intervals of softer emotions, than did his playing. It was wonderful; and his countenance changed with each expression of the music, being at times quite *farouche* and wild, as if he had been really actuated by the passions he was illustrating. He afterwards played a number of variations upon a given subject, and then entered into conversation. He talked of his own talent and that of others, speculated upon the nature and exciting causes of genius, and gave us a very interesting insight into his own character. I should think he described himself exactly when he said, 'Si j'étais cordonnier, je ferais les souliers avec passion.' In the evening we met the Comte and Comtesse de Boissy, M. de Lagny, and M. de Gioray, all of whom belonged to the best Parisian society. M. de Lagny told me that Liszt at thirteen was as wonderful as he is now at twenty-two; and that, though music was his reigning passion, his talents were extraordinary to whatever he applied them. As an instance of their being so considered, he mentioned a remark made by the Italian singer, Catrufo, who had seen him in his childish days, and which was as follows: 'Quand j'ai vu Liszt, je me suis dit "Voilà un enfant," quand je l'ai entendu parler, j'ai dit "Voilà un homme," quand je l'ai entendu jouer, j'ai dit "Voilà un Dieu!"'

"On the 12th of March we went to a concert given jointly by Liszt and Manuel Garcia, and heard some fine music for full orchestra, and some distinguished solo performers; but none of them were so extraordinary or full of interest to me as that of Liszt. It gives one a sort of melancholy feeling to hear and see him play that one can with difficulty shake off. He is much wasted away since we first saw him, and his mind evidently wears out his body. When first he made his appearance this evening he seemed so languid as scarcely to have the power of moving, and the first few notes he struck partook of this languor; but, when once his fingers are on the instrument, his genius obtains the complete mastery over his frame, and he is as entirely absorbed and insensible to what is passing around him as a person in a feverish dream. Indeed, I doubt whether a kind of temporary insanity does not come over him; for at times the fury with which he strikes the pianoforte, and with which his whole countenance and demeanour correspond, resembles that of a person fighting with some dreadful phantom—and then 'a change comes o'er the spirit of his dream,' and the expression of his countenance and the mournful shake of his head are most touching. He is a most interesting being, but one little fitted to encounter the hardships or transact the business of the world he lives in. We heard that he was in a state of complete exhaustion after his performance of this evening."

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